Cannock & Rugeley
CHRONICLE
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VILLAGE CONTEST SPARED THE CHOP

BY LIAM KEEN

THE Best Kept Village competition in Staffordshire will continue despite the organising body closing.

The Community Council of Staffordshire had been supporting rural communities for 64 years but met for the final time last month.

Chief executive Chris Welch said: "The Best Kept Village competition will continue into the future in the very capable hands of the Staffordshire Community Foundation, a well-known local charity.

"And our support work for village halls and the work we do for the Government, through Defra [Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs], will be handled by another local charity, Support Staffordshire.

"It was a very difficult decision to take. Trustees have been considering the future for the past 18 months, and in light of the current economic climate, they made the decision to carry out a managed closure of the organisation, rather than slowly wither on the vine.

"We have carried out some amazing pieces of work over the 64 years and we've been at the forefront of many new initiatives.

Decision

"But we are probably best known for running the Staffordshire Best Kept Village competition."

The organisation would have celebrated their 65th anniversary next month but made a decision to bring their work to an early close, and they met for the final time at Great Bridgeford Village Hall near Stafford on August 20.

The meeting brought together former members of the group with volunteers and staff covering the last 40 years who exchanged memories of their work with the organisation before they officially stopped running on August 31.

The Community Council first met in October 1953 and their work has varied over the years from giving support to initiatives from luncheon clubs, garden guilds and community transport to out of school clubs and training for the unemployed, and helping communities develop affordable housing.

The charity taking on the Best Kept Village competition, Staffordshire Community Foundation, is an independent charity that began operating in 2008 with the launch of the Grassroots Grants Scheme.

It offers funding and grants in an effort to 'strengthen local communities and tackle issues of disadvantage and exclusion'.

£200K MAKEOVER AT PARK GOES SWIMMINGLY

Even the mermaids are impressed – Georgina Wood, aged 19, and Jessica Daley, 20, at Ravenhill Park

A FORMERLY 'dilapidated' park was taken over by pirates at the weekend as it opened its gates following a £200,000 makeover.

Mermaids, pirates and dozens of guests attended the ribbon-cutting at Ravenhill Play Park in Brereton as professional riders showed off their moves on the skate rink with skateboard, scooter and BMX workshops.

The park in Main Road has benefited from an upgraded play area, extended woodland walk, gym equipment and woodland craft space. The work is part of an ongoing project to improve parks and other public areas by a group called Brereton Million after they won a grant for £1 million across 10 years in 2012 from Big Local, a Big Lottery programme.

Brereton Million chairman Mat Walker said: "It has been fantastic and very well supported.

"Normal people have put this together, it has been driven by the community, and everyone who has supported us was there to celebrate the achievement. This has brought a lot of people closer together.

"It is humbling to see how many were there and appreciated what we have done.

"We have created facilities that people in Brereton can be proud of."

Ward councillor Alan Dudson hailed the day as a success. He said: "It was an excellent morning. Everyone was looking forward to it, and it is no surprise that it turned out to be a fantastic play area."

VETERAN

Tributes as war hero dies at the age of 100

A WAR hero described as an 'absolute delight, a true gentleman and a treasure' has died. Tributes are pouring in for George Pratt, who died on Friday a few months after celebrating his 100th birthday in March. The father of three and grandfather of three was awarded the Burma Star and Arctic Star.

George Pratt

He joined the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in 1940 as a dispatch rider, serving in the British Expeditionary Force with which he was posted in France. He was part of an operation in the Arctic Circle for which he received a bravery award.

In September 1940, he was posted to England before Kankinara in India two years later. He left the Army at the end of the war. His 100th birthday, organised by Help a Squaddie, was celebrated at his home in Rugeley.

Tina Speakman, a volunteer for Help a Squaddie, said: "We are all going to miss him. He was an absolute delight, a true gentleman and a treasure." His wife Ethel, who he married in 1948, died in 1983.

County councillor Bryan Jones tweeted: "A very sad day today. A wonderful gentleman on every level."

● Time – Page 3

TRAFFIC

Designer outlet delays motorists

DRIVERS are facing delays as work continues on Cannock's designer outlet village.

Work on the £160 million McArthurGlen Designer Outlet site, formerly known as Mill Green, started in July.

Multi-signal traffic lights are in place along the A460 until October 6.

Due to be completed in 2020, the scheme will bring 1,000 jobs to the area, with Phase 1 set to be home to 80 premium and luxury brands.

INSIDE

COUNTDOWN TO CONTEST

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Farewell to much-loved comedian, 74, at church service

Tributes – Ian 'Sludge' Lees

Wolves legend John Richards arrives

The floral tribute inside the hearse

Ex-Wolves, Walsall and Albion star Don Goodman

Stars come out for big Sludge send-off

Carrying the coffin, family members wear Sludge's colourful jackets

Brummie comedian, Jasper Carrott, with Black Country entertainer Kenny Craig

COMEDIANS, entertainers and football legends gave their final, heartfelt tributes to beloved Black Country comic Ian 'Sludge' Lees at his funeral.

Report by Megan Archer

More than 100 family members, friends and celebrities packed St Mary's Church in Cannock to say goodbye.

Mourners included comedians Jasper Carrott and Johnny Carroll, and Wolves legends John Richards and Don Goodman.

The Cannock-born star and Wolves supporter died on July 30, aged 74, just weeks after being diagnosed with cancer. He is survived by his partner Diane Mills and four children, Amanda, Daniel, Sophie and Tom. Emotional and tearful tributes were made by each of his children during the service last Wednesday.

His eldest son Daniel said: "Our dad had presence, timing and the ability to turn all situations into his favour. He was never happier than when he had a room full of people in hysterics."

Tom added: "Dad always tried to see the funny side of things. It's his fault too that I had an unhealthy obsession with Wolverhampton Wanderers. Some of the best times with dad were at Molineux. It would take us an hour to get round though as people were always stopping him for photos. He really was loved, he was just so kind to others."

Sludge's manager and close friend Jake Elcock called him a 'comedy legend'.

He said: "There are certain comedy routines that will always be associated with him – the Eric Cantona TV sketch for example. Even now every time a football player gets a red card my grandsons still chant 'what they sent him off for?'

"And most of all his boxing routine. No matter how many times you saw it it still brought gales of laughter – 'There was a familiar face in the third row, it was mine. I got knocked down, the ref said get up at nine, I said what time is it now? I was a chicken weight, I always had the stuffing knocked out of me'."

TV personality and comedian Jasper Carrott attended the service, and paid tribute.

"We were this band of comic brothers. We all looked after each other," he said.

"I didn't know Ian desperately well but I worked with him many a time. He was a great comic and so reliable. There's a comedy club up there now. When I get up there I'm going to have trouble getting on the stage. I'm here to pay tribute to a very special comedian."

And Black Country entertainer Kenny Craig said: "We had a great camaraderie. They were fabulous days. Ian led a great life."

New chief's praise for pride in the force

STAFFORDSHIRE Police has appointed a new police chief.

Jenny Sims has been recruited as Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) and will lead two directorates – Neighbourhood, Partnerships and Contact and Response. She will work with the executive team to deliver the force strategy.

Jenny Sims

She plans to build on the ongoing early intervention work with partners to tackle the root causes of problems.

The ACC will develop the role of neighbourhood policing following the recent changes and will ensure contact and response continues to advance. She said: "Over the past few weeks I have spent time getting to know the force, its people and its partners and I am overwhelmed by the pride in the organisation."

ACC Sims became a police officer with Merseyside Police in 1993.

She has undertaken two national secondments and was the force lead and driver for Operation Brookdale – a force-wide partnership response to tackle the anti-social and criminal use of motor cycles which continues today.

Ice rink to be set up at park

LICHFIELD'S Beacon Park will be transformed into a winter wonderland with its own ice rink this Christmas.

It will open from December 14 until January 4 excluding Christmas Day.

The event will start in Lichfield's flower garden where there will be fairground rides and children's entertainment. Festive lighting will lead visitors to a hive of activities, crafts, food and bars.

At the heart of the event is a synthetic ice rink which can accommodate up to 100 skaters.

Away from the rink, in heated marquees, there will be live music and festive entertainment on some days.

Book tickets for the rink or VIP area visit www.lichfieldwinterwonderland.co.uk

Talk on Great War

NORTON Canes Historical Society's first meeting after the summer recess is on Tuesday, September 11, from 7 to 9pm at the village library in Burntwood Road. The speaker is Dave Smith, who will give a talk on 'The Great War, a War to End All Wars. Admission is free.

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12-year-olds groomed to work as drug mules

CHILDREN as young as 12 are being groomed to work as drug mules by dealers in almost 100 gang operations in the West Midlands region.

Clothing, trainers and money are given to vulnerable youths in exchange for carrying drugs including heroin and crack cocaine.

Supplied with a mobile phone, the children are controlled by a gang in the latest child exploitation grooming scandal, known as County Lines.

West Midlands Police's expert on slavery, Supt Nick Walton, said about 90 of the 'lines' were operating in the West Midlands including 40 outside Birmingham in areas including the Black Country and Staffordshire.

It comes after 90 children were arrested by the force on suspicion of supplying and possessing drugs last year.

They included two 12-year-old boys, detained on suspicion of supplying heroin and cannabis.

Mr Walton said: "While we used to see under-18s dealing drugs on the street as an offence, we are now also looking at potential child exploitation and taking a different approach."

Gangs launch County Lines in a bid to extend dealing networks and to evade police attention, he added.

Within days a child can be groomed for carrying drugs sold in street deals, in exchange for money, gifts and protection.

Helpers turn out for Chase clean-up

A LITTER pick on Cannock Chase at the weekend attracted 20 volunteers.

Organised by the Friends of Cannock Chase, the event was held to clean up the area for other users of the beauty spot. "We had one of our members come with a trailer and we were able to collect 15 bags of recyclable rubbish," June Jukes, one of the organisers, said.

"There was also fly-tipped rubbish which we alerted the rangers about."

The litter pick on Saturday morning turned out to be a successful follow-up to a similar event in the spring.

The Friends are now looking forward to a history walk on September 15 taking in South Street and Racecourse Plantation, meeting at Penkridge Bank car park at 2.30pm.

Retro party night

PARTY-GOERS can enjoy a night of 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s music. The party night is on September 22 from 8pm at The White Eagle Club, in Riverway, Stafford. Tickets are available from £5 at www.lrpartnership.co.uk

Warning over use of laughing gas

Discard laughing gas canisters

YOUNGSTERS are being warned of the dangers of laughing gas after canisters were found dumped.

Councillors have urged people to 'be very careful' after silver canisters of nitrous oxide, better known as laughing gas or hippy crack, were found on a street between Shaw's Lane and Walsall Road in Great Wyrley.

Health England has now warned of the serious and sometimes fatal risks associated with the psychoactive substance.

Tony Mercer, West Midlands health and wellbeing programme manager for Public Health England, said: "There are serious risks associated with nitrous oxide, which can be especially dangerous when mixed with alcohol.

"The effects can include dizziness, confusion, loss of co-ordination, sound distortions and hallucinations.

"It is very difficult to judge how much you have used and the substance has been linked to a number of deaths."

Councillor Bernard Williams, who represents Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Great Wyrley on Staffordshire County Council, said: "As a council, we are always warning youngsters to be very careful of what they are doing.

"Taking drugs or using these laughing canisters, it's stuff they shouldn't be taking. I live in Shareshill and I see canisters around there, too."

Long term effects of inhaling the gas include heart attacks, severe brain damages or even death.

Councillor Darren Foley said: "Our young people need to be informed of the dangers of inhaling nitrous oxide."

● Talking Point – Page 6

Time to celebrate as Burma star hits 100

HE learned his trade in workshops during the Burma Campaign, repairing everything from guns to tanks and other vehicles before returning home and running an electrical repair shop and then a bike shop.

Affectionatley known around the area as 'Bill from the bike shop', Hednesford-born Bill Winfindale has now clocked up 100 years.

Friends described him as a jack of all trades who would 'do anything to help anybody' as they joined him to mark the occasion at The Willows nursing home in Darlaston.

Among those attending was the mayor of Walsall, Marco Longhi, who said: "Bill is the sort of person who has helped make the country that we live in what it is today."

Bill Winfindale, centre, with family, friends and the mayor of Walsall

Proud – Bill Winfindale with his medals

Opened

Mr Winfindale briefly worked at an engineering company in Great Bridge before being called up to the South Staffordshire Regiment in 1939. He served in Northern Ireland, South Africa, India and then Burma where he joined the second division of the 14th Army.

Private Winfindale was based mainly in a workshop, repairing kit, weaponry and vehicles during the Burma Campaign, from 1943 to 1944.

Returning to Hednesford in 1946, he opened an electrical goods shop in 1948 and his soon-to-be wife Gwendoline Broome, known as Gwen, moved in to help him run the store in 1950. The couple also sold bikes and parts from the shop.

However, after the council deemed the building on Catherine's Cross unsafe, it was demolished, leaving the couple to trade from a makeshift base until a new shop could be built. They then set up WT Winfindale's, a bicycle shop a stone's throw away from the old premises.

The makeshift WT Winfindale's before the new shop was built

Bicycles outside WT Winfindfale's shop in Hednesford

The couple tied the knot on August 3 in 1953 at St Lawrence's Church. And they ran the shop up until 2002. Gwen died aged 94 in 2017 after 64 years of marriage.

Mr Windfindale moved into The Willows in January. At the party last Friday, he said: "I wasn't expecting this, I'm really surprised actually. It's amazing that the mayor came here specifically to see me – I've had a great day."

Family friend Jason Robins, 42, who has known Bill since he was 10, said: "He's been a great friend and an inspiration for me. I've seen him a lot since his wife died and the man is just a legend. I've always looked up to him and to be 100-years-old and the way he is, he's chirpy and witty, and it's amazing."

His brother-in-law Bill Broome said: "He's had a lovely time today, and has done since he came here, and we hope he can continue to thrive. They're very good to him here. We're so pleased to be able to celebrate this for him."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man is killed in A38 lorry collision

A MAN was killed on the A38 in what police are calling a 'serious' collision.

Staffordshire Police responded to calls about an accident on the southbound carriageway at 4.10am on Monday. "The collision, which we believe occurred between a man and a heavy goods vehicle, has unfortunately resulted in the man dying at the scene," a spokesman for the force said.

Officers from the collision investigation unit were at the scene to establish the circumstances of the incident.

Anyone who saw anything or may have dashcam footage of the incident should call 101 quoting incident number 94 of 3 September.

Thousand get the message on dying

MORE than 1,000 people took action following a council campaign to get people talking about dying.

The Dying Matters scheme was launched this year by Staffordshire County Council in a bid to break the taboo around death. Bosses wanted to encourage people to talk about dying and preparing plans for when they or loved ones near the end of their lives.

The initiative culminated with the Dying Matters Awareness week in early May. The authority has now revealed that 1,003 people sought advice as a result of the campaign.

Corps hoping to drum up support

A DRUM corps is looking for new members ahead of this year's remembrance day parades.

The Cannock Chase Drum Corps perform at numerous events in the district, including carnivals, fetes and parades. The group will also be at the annual parade in Heath Hayes and the Anzac remembrance ceremony.

The Cannock-based drummers are now appealing for new members to help continue its traditions.

They meet at Hayes Green Community Centre on Wednesdays from 6.30 to 8.30pm. Call 07969 981918.

Folk club to return for autumn sessions

BURNTWOOD Folk Club is returning to the Ashmole Club in Meerash Lane, Hammerwich, for monthly Wednesday acoustic open-mic sessions.

Players of all genres of acoustic music are welcome to showcase their talents with cover versions or original compositions. Autumn dates are September 12, October 10, November 14 and December 12.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/burntwoodfolk

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COUNTY NEWS

Commissioner role move stalls

PLANS to combine the role of Police and Crime Commissioner with the mayoralty in the West Midlands by 2020 have been dealt a blow. Councillors in Coventry have not been able to reach an agreement to back the plans, put forward by the Government.

It does not necessarily mean the end for the proposals, but all seven areas that make up the West Midlands Combined Authority, including Wolverhampton and the other three Black Country boroughs, must agree if the plan is to be passed. A vote is due at the board meeting on September 14

David Jamieson is currently Police and Crime Commissioner.

Chef recruitment on menu at park

DRAYTON Manor Theme Park is on the lookout for talented chefs to join the team at its four-star hotel and grill restaurant. The Staffordshire park. near Tamworth, is looking to fill a number of roles, including apprentices, commis chef and chef de partie positions.

Workers also receive a free theme park ticket allowance for family and friends, free on-site parking, discounted hotel stays through the Interstate UK hotel portfolio and 30 days annual leave per year.

More information is available at draytonmanor.co.uk/recruitment/current-vacancies.

Fire service issue warning on plugs

WEST Midlands Fire Service is warning that a faulty remote controlled plug socket set which has been sold on the market could set homes on fire.

The service has issued a product recall warning and urged people using them to 'switch off and unplug now'.

It comes after manufacturer Rolson Tools was notified by their supplier SMJ Electrical of a safety issue with this product.

For more information see sales@rolsontools.com

Blues star Joanne sells out the Robin on tour

A HOMECOMING concert by internationally-renowned blues star Joanne Shaw Taylor has sold out at a Black Country venue. Bilston's Robin 2 club is hosting the Wednesbury-born star as part of her upcoming UK tour.

The guitarist and singer, who recently signed a deal with Sony Music, on the Silvertone label, for three albums will be playing the 700-capacity venue on October 7.

We can all home in on use of plastic

In his latest Green Living column, PAUL WOODHEAD suggests some alternatives to your household items

THERE are many alternatives to help us reduce the consumption of plastics in particular and packaging in general. We have spoken previously about reusable coffee cups and water bottles as well as switching to safety razors and our shopping bags replacing the plastic bags, ditching the straw and not buying anything in black plastic. Here are some more easy-to-access examples which might help you switch:

Toilet paper – yep, even this is often wrapped in plastic, but there is toilet paper packaged in paper available out there

Shampoo – there are plenty of great bar-shampoos on the market now, and research has actually suggested they don't strip your hair in the same way that chemical-based, liquid shampoos often do

Toothbrushes – plastic toothbrushes might not feel like single-use plastic, but their disposable nature still helps contribute to landfill, and many are littered. Bamboo toothbrushes make a much more sustainable alternative

Kitchen brushes and cloths – choose alternatives made from natural fibres, such as cotton cloths, coconut scrubs and wooden brushes

There have also been a number of residents who have taken it upon themselves to highlight the excessive plastics used as packaging in supermarkets with a 'plastic attack'. This is where you complete your shopping but leave the excess plastic packaging behind at the till for the company to dispose of.

Wildlife centre unveils £1m upgrade images

By Tom Oakley

ONE of Staffordshire's most popular visitor attractions is set to be transformed as part of a million pound project.

The Wolseley Centre – Staffordshire Wildlife Trust's headquarters at Wolseley Bridge, near Rugeley – will be given a state-of-the-art upgrade under new plans.

As part of the project, a new educational hub will be built, and there are also plans for a refurbished car park, new kitchen and cafe, and an open space reception.

The new Learning Hub, which will be built on grass next to the Wolseley Centre, has a cutting-edge environmental design that fits in with the natural landscape of the site.

It will replace the current classroom, which is being converted into the kitchen and cafe.

Start

Bosses say they hope the plans – costing about £1 million – will boost visitor numbers further, after the centre's most successful year saw more than 100,000 people visit.

Project manager Mark Dixon said a team has been working on the plans for 18 months and work could start in the next six to eight weeks.

"We get about 100,000 visitors coming every year – this summer has been incredibly popular," he added.

"Most days and weekends the car park has been so full that we've not had any space. We have recognised that we get a lot of visitors to the site but the centre is in need of TLC.

"We currently have limited cafe facilities – just a coffee machine – and a lot of people have wanted a proper dining experience."

Work is expected to be completed by April, subject to planning permission for the project being granted by Stafford Borough Council.

Project manager Mark Dixon – 'the centre is in need of TLC'

How the centre's reception area will look

A proper dining experience – the Kingfisher Cafe

A membership area is included in the plans

An artist's impression of the Learning Hub, which will be built next to the Wolseley Centre

Petition on pavement parking goes to PM

A 17,000-NAME petition has been handed to the Prime Minister urging the Government to outlaw dangerous pavement parking.

The move is backed by 20 organisations including the Guide Dogs charity. It follows Cannock Chase Council's decision to charge traders who put out tables, chairs and advertising A-boards in front of their shops and businesses.

Council leader George Adamson said the policy is aimed at making pavements safer, especially for the blind and those with disabilities but constituency MP Amanda Milling wants the policy scrapped.

In the Downing Street petition, charities are calling on the Government to take urgent action 1,000 days after ministers first promised to tackle the problem of unsafe pavement parking.

An accompanying letter, signed by groups representing people with disabilities, older people and a wide range of road users, challenges the Government for stalling on the issue, mainly involving cars parked on pavements, since 2015.

It says obstructed pavements force many into the road, including blind and partially sighted people, parents with pushchairs and young children, wheelchair users and others who use mobility aids.

Council wins in taxi licence row

A CROWN court has found in favour of Lichfield District Council in a wrangle over a cabbie's licence.

It comes after Mohammed Chowdhury appealed against a magistrates court ruling that the council's decision not to renew his taxi driver's licence should be upheld.

Originally the council had rejected his licence renewal application after receiving complaints about him and carrying out 'mystery shopper' tests.

At the latest hearing, one judge and two magistrates sitting at Stoke Crown Court upheld the council's decision not to renew the licence, and ordered Mr Chowdhury to pay the council's costs of £6,000 which, when added to the £5,000 costs from the magistrates court case, makes a total of £11,000 in costs.

Church mini-market

A MINI-MARKET will be held at St Stephen's Church in Bideford Way, Cannock, on Saturday from 9.30 to 11.15am. Stalls include toys, books, gifts, jigsaws, clothes and cakes. Call 01543 462283 for further details.

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72 people die while waiting for transplant

SEVENTY TWO people from Staffordshire and the Black Country have died while waiting for an organ transplant in the last five years, new figures show.

The shocking statistic was revealed by NHS Blood and Transplant in a bid to get more donors.

There were six deaths in Cannock and six in Stafford, while 18 were in Sandwell, 17 in Wolverhampton, 15 in Walsall and 10 in Dudley.

NHS Blood and Transplant says that although the number of donors is increasing and the waiting lists are reducing, 6,000 patients in the UK are currently hoping for a transplant, and it is urging more people to join the register.

Nationally, about three people die each day in need of an organ, but only a small percentage of people die in circumstances where they can donate.

Emma Lawson, a specialist nurse organ donation team manager who covers hospitals in the West Midlands, is urging people to tell their families about their wishes to tie in with Organ Donation Week.

During the past year 237 people in the West Midlands had their lives saved by a transplant, including 25 people from Sandwell, 23 from Dudley, 20 from Walsall and 16 from Wolverhampton, while in Cannock nine people had their lives saved by a transplant and eight in Stafford.

£1k donation for response radios

A COUNCILLOR has made a generous donation from a fund to help St John Ambulance.

Councillor Bryan Jones gave £1,000 to the Hednesford branch which helped to pay for five radios to replace outdated equipment. The new radios cost just under £2,000 with the remaining funds paid for by the service.

Councillor Jones, who represents Hednesford and Rawnsley on Staffordshire County Council, said: "Volunteers from St John Ambulance do fantastic work within our local communities and it was great to see the radios being put to good use at the recent Hednesford Festival."

The donation came from the Community Fund which each council member is given to help local projects.

Walking to ridge

CHASE Ramblers' walk this Sunday is an eight-mile moderate walk from Atherstone to Hartshill Ridge, meeting at Hednesford railway station car park for a 9am prompt departure. Call 01543 459746. New walkers welcome.

Just days before your chance to vote

THERE are just days to go until voting begins in the Express & Star's Baby of the Year competition.

More than 750 little ones were photographed by snapper Andrea Powell at intu Merry Hill and the Mander Centre in Wolverhampton.

Families were invited to choose the perfect picture to feature in a 24-page supplement, in next Wednesday, when people will get their chance to vote for their favourites.

Parents, grandparents, uncles and aunties will have the opportunity to vote for their winner by collecting tokens printed in our sister daily, the Express & Star. Tokens will be available to cut out of the newspaper from then until Saturday, October 13.

Some days will also feature bumper bonus tokens, with quadruple token editions, and even 10 available to collect on other days.

There are some serious prizes on offer across four age categories, and a bonus for the overall winner. There will be a £500 prize for the winner in each of the following categories – 0-9 months, 10-18 months, 19-35 months, and 3-5 years – and a £250 bonus for the overall winner. It is the first year the Express & Star has run the competition and circulation sales manager Andy Maxwell had urged people to vote for their favourites.

Once you've picked, cut out the vote tokens and complete a Voting Tokens Return Form. Tokens can be sent in batches or together in one envelope after the last one has been printed, but a form must be included each time. The deadline for returning tokens is October 19. Find out more by visiting the website https://www.baby.expressandstar.com

Man found dead next to M54 had made 999 call

A DELIVERY driver whose body was found by the side of the M54 called 999 days before he was reported missing, an inquest heard.

Surjit Singh Takhar, who used to work for Gurso Lining in Great Wyrley, was 37 when he was reported missing from his home by his family in October 2008. Nearly seven years later, maintenance workers found his remains at the bottom of an embankment at junction four of the M54, near Shifnal, on August 20, 2015.

Surjit Takhar

His family, from Willenhall, may never know how he ended up there after the Coroner for Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, John Ellery, recorded an open conclusion at his inquest on Monday. During the hearing, Det Insp James Munro said Mr Takhar called 999 on October 1, 2008 after someone had gone to his home. He was formally reported missing days later.

Mr Munro added that Mr Takhar led a 'chaotic' lifestyle and owed money to some people.

He said a number of individuals had been investigated over his disappearance and death but that there was insufficient evidence to take it any further. He told the inquest: "Surjit made a 999 call on October 1 when someone came to his flat, so we know he was alive then. It is of great disappointment that we have not been able to find how Surjit met this death."

A post mortem was carried out by Dr Nick Hunt, but the cause of death was 'unascertained', the inquest heard.

The coroner apologised for having no answers to the mystery.

Addressing his family, who are from Willenhall, he said: "It's a great disappointment to you as a family because we don't know what happened." But he added: "Should any further information come to light, which could answer some of the questions, then West Midlands Police would reopen the investigation, and I would consider reopening the inquest."

Oscar winners visit youth club

Chris Overton, centre, and Rachel Shenton, left, visiting BID Services' youth club and summer school

OSCAR winners Chris Overton and Rachel Shenton have been learning about a project making a positive difference to the lives of deaf or hard of hearing children and young people.

They triumphed at the awards with their film The Silent Child, which won the Best Live Action Short Film. Chris Overton, from Cannock, and Rachel, of Stoke-on-Trent, used the movie's story, which features a young deaf girl who lives in silence until a social worker teaches her how to communicate, to address the BID Services' youth club and summer school in Birmingham.

The organisation helps young people throughout the city who experience reduced access to leisure activities due to communication barriers. It is funded by BBC Children in Need through a three-year grant of £89,535. "It was fantastic spending the afternoon at BID Services youth club, learning about the work they do to make a difference to the lives of deaf children and young people across the city," Chris said.

"We loved having the chance to chat to the young people that benefit from the support, and getting involved in some of the activities they enjoy."

NEWS IN BRIEF

House is cordoned off over body find

THE body of a man was found in a house in Hill Ridware.

Emergency services were called to the property in Uttoxeter Road at 12.45pm on Saturday.

He was pronounced dead at the scene and the death is not being treated as as suspicious.

A cordon was put in place around the house, causing delays for drivers in the area.

A Staffordshire Police spokesman said: "His family are now being supported by specially trained officers.

"The death is not being treated as suspicious, and a report is being prepared for HM Coroner."

Campaign pays off on detention

STAFFORDSHIRE Police has stopped detaining people believed to have mental health problems at stations.

No one has been held at a police station under the Mental Health Act since last December, according to a report to the county council.

Police were previously expected to hold suspects while they awaited a mental health assessment. They are now taken to a 'health-based place of safety' instead.

The report said fewer people had been arrested under the Mental Health Act this year.

Pubs to cut prices in VAT campaign

THE Linford Arms in Cannock and Hedgeford Lodge in Hednesford are to cut the price of all food and drink by 7.5 per cent on Thursday.

They are supporting Tax Equality Day aimed at highlighting the benefit of a VAT reduction in the hospitality industry. At present all food and drink in pubs is subject to 20 per cent VAT, compared to supermarkets which benefit from zero VAT on all food.

As a result, supermarkets use that saving to sell alcohol at a discounted price. Prices at the two Wetherspoon pubs will be cut for one day only.

Invite to join People's Walk for Wildlife

WILDLIFE lovers are being invited to join TV presenter and naturalist Chris Packham on a People's Walk for Wildlife in London later this month.

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country is planning group travel to and from the capital on Saturday, September 22, either by coach from Centre of the Earth in Winson Green or by train from Birmingham New Street.

Email emma.t@bbcwildlife.org.uk

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Integrity of MPs in VAT rates call goes pop!

ALARMED by rising obesity levels, MPs have called for higher VAT rates for sugary and salty foods. Oh and banning Tony the Tiger from advertising Frosties.

Of course, disguising tax rises as a healthy-living campaign is the oldest trick in the politician's repertoire, although I really can't see it working. After all, if money were a factor, people would eat in moderation to keep their bills down, wouldn't they?

Meanwhile, according to the House of Commons catering service, MPs and their officials got through nearly 19,000 cans of full-sugar Coca Cola in the six months up until April this year. Which is interesting, because according to Public Health England,just a single can of full-sugar Coca Cola is enough to send you over your daily sugar allowance.

The honourable members also munched their way through 6,000 packets of crisps, 5,000 Twix packs and 2,400 Victoria sponges, not to mention 15,000 cartons of Ribena. As ever, good to them leading by example.

■ ■ ■

AT THE same time, the Government has also announced that children under the age of 18 are to be banned from buying energy drinks.

What is wrong with kids today? When I was 17, it was all about my friends and I trying to sneak a pint in the backroom of the local pub, not knocking back cans of pop that give you insomnia.

Meanwhile, experts are attributing a 60 per cent fall in the number of Black Country teenagers getting pregnant to the fact that today's youngsters do their, ahem, socialising online these days, rather than in person. Of course, a fall in teenage pregnancies is a good thing, but it does again make one wonder about the youth of today.

Anyway, back to the energy drink ban: what would be interesting to know is – how many of the MPs who are in favour of this also want to see 16-year-olds being given the vote?

Let's get this right. At 16, you're not old enough to buy a fizzy drink packed with sugar and caffeine, but you are mature enough to decide who runs the country. Utter madness.

■ ■ ■

OVER the weekend, the television news bulletins were questioning whether, 15 years after he was appointed a CBE, that David Beckham had not been upgraded to a knighthood. Could it be down to his tax affairs?

Well, it could be. Then again, it could be down the fact that he hasn't actually achieved anything since then.

PM's awkward moves mirror more trouble for Corbyn

With all the problems being faced by her boss, obviously, Diane Abbott is right by his side?

Theresa May during her dad-dancing session in South Africa...next stop Strictly?

White supremacist David Duke, who has spoken out in praise of Jeremy Corbyn

May dancing on thin ice of acceptability

"I HAPPEN to be the oldest woman on television not baking cakes." Anne Robinson, 73, describing herself this week.

WITH Jeremy Corbyn fighting allegations of anti-semitism on a daily basis, you'd expect his old allies to be shouting support from the rooftops. Seriously, has anybody seen Diane Abbott?

I WROTE recently about newspapers slipping into coy mediaeval language (lass, beau, etc) when describing anything sexual. Sure enough, one of this week's reviews of Bodyguard (BBC1), refers to the leading characters having "two steamy trysts." "Tryst" is a favourite tabloid word, along with "romp." I'm not sure if there is any real difference between romping and trysting, although romping always sounds a bit lower-class. The tattooed underclass romp on budget airliners but the gentry have trysts in private jets.

I WISH to report a case of gender appropriation. Images from her African tour show Theresa May indulging in an awkward, stiff-limbed activity her aides call "dancing." It is no such thing. It is, as any father of teenage children can testify, an example of dad-dancing. This is an art form reserved for males of a certain age and is usually accompanied by one's children burying their heads in their hands. Leave it, Theresa. Dad-dancing is for dads.

THE PM's trip to Africa must come as a shock to those Brits raised on endless tales of slavery, blood diamonds and imperial oppression. Surely, the countries of the old British Empire should be lining up to spit in our faces. Truth is, if you actually visit these countries you may

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

be amazed at the goodwill. In Sri Lanka some years ago, an old chap sighed wistfully for the days of British rule and asked me if there was any chance of us returning. In Israel, a former member of a guerilla gang who was imprisoned by the Brits told me: "If you've got to be occupied by anybody, it may as well be the British." There are, of course, disturbing memories of some terrible events. But there is also a surprising amount of friendship. As far as I know, the British Empire is the only empire in the long and savage history of imperial conquest whose former masters and servants meet on a regular basis to play cricket.

WHATEVER possessed the Scottish politician Alex Salmond, on the campaign trail in 1999, to share his Solero ice-cream with a 17-year-old student? It looked awkward back then and today, with the SNP legend accused of sexual harassment, it hardly helps. There is a lesson here for politicians everywhere. You are approached by a young and attractive supporter. Do you a) nod politely, b) shake hands, or c) let them lick your Solero? It's really not that difficult, is it?

THE abiding image from this year's Reading Festival inspired the Daily Star to adopt an oddly mediaeval sort of language that goes with rude bits and embarrassment. As the newspaper put it: "Pics include a lass holding aloft a blow-up penis. A lass? Aloft? Yea, verily, dilly-dilly and juggle my firkins. The inflatable-penis stunt must have seemed a great idea at the time. But then the image goes viral and I'm guessing the girl's family are mortified. It gets worse. These days, thanks to social media, an image is forever. Years from now, in her smartest City outfit, this lass is being interviewed for a dream job. The boss looks up from his computer with a thin smile and asks: "Miss Scroggins, would you describe yourself as impetuous . . ?" And in that awful moment she knows precisely which image he's got on his screen. She is forever the Reading Todger Lass.

DAVID Duke, former Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, has been in the news lately. First, he is a character in the new Spike Lee film, BlacKkK l a n s m a n. Next, he joined that other far right character Nick Griffin last week in praising Jeremy Corbyn's alleged – and strongly denied – comments on Zionists. In all my years in this job, involving thousands of interviewees from princes right through to paupers, I met only two men whom I knew were close to evil but who came across as polite, engaging and disturbingly charming. One was Gerry Adams. The other was David Duke.

IF you ask people how they feel about food prices rising by £7 a month because of the long, hot summer, they'll say it's a diabolical liberty and a national disgrace. Ask those same people if they'd cheerfully pay £7 a month for a glorious long, dry summer that begins in May and lasts until September and they'll whip out their cheque books in no time. It's all about how you ask the question.

FOR younger readers, a cheque book is, er, well, it really doesn't matter. Soon they will all be gone.

TALKING POINT

Substance use is no laughing matter . . .

MANY people will have noticed the plethora of innocuous looking small silver canisters littering parks, wasteground and streets.

Some people may know they are nitrous oxide gas canisters – also known as laughing gas or hippy crack.

But how many people realise how widespread the use of the canisters and 'balloons' is becoming, predictably among young people, or how deadly they can be?

Laughing gas seems fun, a harmless puff of light entertainment. But what these canisters actually do is replace oxygen in the lungs with nitrous oxide. How can that be harmless?

The effects of laughing gas include a brief feeling of euphoria but also dizziness, impaired judgment and even hallucinations. However the potential long-term damage due to the oxygen in the lungs being replaced with nitrous oxide can be a heart attack, severe brain damage or even death.

The Daily Mail recently carried the tragic story of a 24-year-old mother who had been left paralysed by inhaling laughing gas at weekends. It caused Lichtheim's disease, a degeneration of the spinal cord, and Olivia Golding can no longer walk or play with her three-year-old boy. The pictures were heart-breaking. Yet these canisters are freely available on line for just a few pence – pocket money in fact. Which is part of the problem.

Young people and even children are buying them. Perhaps they assume they are legal and, as they are becoming so widely used, harmless.

In fact nitrous oxide is covered under the The Psychoactive Substances Act of 2016 which previously tackled illegal highs. It is illegal to be used for human consumption but does have legitimate uses, including medicinal use such as in childbirth and in catering to whip cream and make frothy coffee.

Let's face it, the 'yoooth' of the day will always want to be a little rebellious, to be cool, to experiment and will also cave in to peer pressure. We've all been there.

Sadly the dangers of 'laughing gas' are not well known. How many mothers have sat their children down and warned about inhaling laughing gas? Well now is the time.

The worrying amount of canisters being dumped shows how widespread this trend is becoming and I fear it will take more tragic deaths to realistically raise the profile of this deadly gas and its dangers. Don't let your child, sister or friend be one of those unfortunate victims sacrificed before the message gets through.

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Youngsters compete for skating title

Competitors line up after the annual gala held at Planet Ice Cannock at the weekend

PLANET Ice Cannock held its annual gala on Saturday when five finalists competed for the title of Skating Star 2018. The Skating Stars competition gives local children a chance to learn to ice skate for free, and starts with an audition process in which 15 children are selected to enter.

The 15 receive a six-week learn to skate course, at the end of which five children are eliminated, with the process continuing until there are five finalists who spend time practising a solo routine and group routine for the gala.

Lucy Dolman, duty manager at Planet Ice Cannock, said: "It is really great to see how far the all of the Skating Stars have come in this competition. They have overcome obstacles along the way."

The overall winner of the competition was Leah Thompson, who will now receive free Skate Excellence Learn to Skate lessons and public skating for 12 months, a voucher towards a pair of brand new ice skates, the opportunity to compete at Planet ice's National Artistic Competition 2019, and the chance to be part of the Christmas production, Cinderella, which takes place on December 15 and 16.

Premier chance to buy W8LFS

The personalised numberplate

THE owner of a Wolves-inspired numberplate is still looking for a buyer – months after putting it up for sale.

Supporters can pick up the personalised plate for about £4,000 from retired salesman Ian Follows, who wants it to go to a good home now that the club is draped in Premier League old gold once again.

The 75-year-old from Cannock, who has been a Wolves fan since he was 10, bought it for £2,000 15 years ago.

He has had some interest but is still looking for a definite buyer.

"I never put it on a car properly, it was only ever to make my cars look good, so I think it's time to let someone enjoy it," he said.

Anyone interested, particularly after the first victory since returning to the top flight at West Ham on Saturday, can call Ian on 07976 653388.

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What about the cost of bin bags?

AS a conscientious recycler, I must take issue with the claims regarding single-use plastic carrier bags.

Before the charge came in we always used proper shopping bags, but if we did use the occasional single-use carrier, it was used several times for shopping and finally as a kitchen refuse bag. But now, we have to buy a roll of plastic bin bags every month.

I wonder how many more single-use plastic bin bags are being bought since the 5p charge was brought in?

FRED LEES
Great Wyrley

Another glitch

NO DEAL Brexit – is it the new Millennium Bug?

FRED LEES
Great Wyrley

Pamphlet goes straight in blue bin

IT seems that every 'letters' column in the Chronicle contains a contribution from local supporters of Brexit.

A few weeks ago one such letter stated that those negotiating the terms of our exit are traitors, as they are failing to achieve the impossible feat of getting the EU to agree to grant the laughable claims that were made during the run-up to the referendum.

I personally resent the fact that those who voted to remain, together with these leading lights of the legal profession who were classed 'enemies of the people' when they pointed out that it was both unlawful and undemocratic for Mrs May and her cabal of Brexiteers to take upon themselves the right to decide what terms were acceptable, are classed as traitors.

Does this mean those suspected of colluding with a foreign country which abhors democracy, that wishes to break up both the EU and NATO are patriots, on the grounds that that country supported the Brexit cause?

Recently I received a pamphlet from the Conservatives, which referred to a '£20bn Brexit dividend'. Soon I will be 86, but as my brain cells are still functioning, it went into the blue bin.

C BLOWER
Cannock

Heartened to hear of battle-bus tour

I WAS most heartened to hear Nigel Farage touring the country with the 'Leave Means Leave' battle-bus. I remember when May started prevaricating over Brexit, he said if we were not getting the Brexit we voted for he would restart UKIP to hold May's feet to the fire!

Well after the Chequers white flag, the time is very soon. I also note, when questioned about leading UKIP again you said they have an elected leader till March 2019, a great coincidence as we leave the EU the same month.

I sense there may be the stirrings of a new party due to May's 'remoaning' deal. It could be called 'Real UKIP' or 'Real Leave'. I favour 'The People's Democrat Party'.

MR T TURNER
Rugeley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

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Fee is good news for box tickers

COUNCILLOR George Adamson defends charging struggling town centre businesses for using parts of the footpath by asserting that the charges are needed to ensure compliance with equality legislation and non-statutory advice from the RNIB (Chronicle, August 16).

Unfortunately he then goes on to explain that the charges do not necessarily make the street furniture safe. Can we ask, then, what is the point of the charges?

Cheer up, businesses. As your profits decline you can be proud that you are keeping a box ticker in employment for a while.

You pay, but you get nothing in return. Well done Labour.

DAVID PERCOX
Cannock UKIP

Need to plan ahead in race for contracts

THE UK's expertise has been instrumental to the development of the EU's Galileo satellite programme and British space companies should welcome the Prime Minister's announcement of potentially launching a rival satellite project as a strong strategic move.

We have seen how the UK's space and satellite industry has boomed over the past decade. The announcement of the new satellite programme will support this growth and comes when many aerospace and engineering companies around the world are facing a global components shortage.

I call on business leaders to use the time in the run-up to Brexit to plan their projects more effectively, source the highest quality components and build a strong position to win other multi-million-pound contracts.

GRAHAM MACKRELL
Managing director, Harmonic Drive UK, Stafford

Under siege in the town

IS it just me? Increasingly, I get the impression it's a little bit like running the gauntlet between the underpass to Beecroft Road car park and the town centre. We're encouraged to change energy supplier, or take up a special offer on mobile phones, and there is an ever increasing number of charities. The beggars are no problem, but the others descend on you like the seagulls of Llandudno.

LES TAYLOR
Cannock

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Outing to pantomime is planned

The Ridwares WI

PRESIDENT Karen Wakefield welcomed the daughter-in-law of treasurer Meryl Mattey, to the July meeting. She was visiting from the USA and celebrating Meryl's birthday.

The speaker was Sam Passey, a financial expert specialising in inheritance tax planning and the protection of assets.

Mr Passey also covered Lasting Power of Attorney and Enduring Power of Attorney which should be set up before the loss of mental capacity.

He then judged the competition "A Treasured Inherited Item" which was won by Wendy Lamb.

A successful Skittles evening was held at Hamstall Ridware, with Gaye Tayler the individual overall winner. Outings were planned to a walled garden at Elford, with cream tea, Tatton Park in December, and the pantomime in Birmingham in January.

The Midsummer Tea had been very popular, with 73 teas being served. The village again held a Menafest Music Festival in aid of Bone Cancer Research, in memory of Ximena Howell. The WI ladies held a 'Jarbola' stall, in which a variety of jars were filled with delicious and useful items to be won tombola style and £264 was raised for the charity.

The next meeting will be held on September 18. The speaker will be Natalie Pettite on 'Beautiful Bodies'.

Afternoon tea for summer celebration

Second left, June Bould, president of Cannock SI and, fourth left, Elizabeth Gooch MBE

SI Cannock & District

SOROPTIMISTS together with family and friends – 80 in total – enjoyed a wonderful afternoon at Mitton Manor, Penkridge, for their annual summer celebration.

President June Bould wanted somewhere quintessentially English where people could walk, chat, enjoy their surroundings and have a delicious afternoon tea; she was delighted when Mitton Manor owner, Elizabeth Gooch MBE, agreed to held it there.

The rain cleared and everyone was able to enjoy the warmth of the sun as they wandered through the gardens before going into the open sided marquee which had been beautifully set up for afternoon tea. There was a fantastic array of finger sandwiches, scotch egg, pork pie, savouries, scones with cream and jam and tiny sweet treats.

The food kept coming, along with that truly traditional English drink, a good, hot cup of tea! Add guitarist and singer Dom and it was a perfect afternoon.

President June thanked Jill Gooch who had done a lot of the organising and asked everyone to join her in thanking Elizabeth Gooch, who was presented her with flowers.

Fashion show to aid charity

Hednesford A TWG

WELCOMING members and guests, Janet Hogg, Sheila Smith and chairman Val Burgess opened the last meeting.

Speaker Arthur Ashton gave a talk and slide show on Fred Astaire. A vote of thanks was given by Gill Rose. At the September meeting members will enjoy their fish/chip harvest lunch together with apple pie/cream followed by a quiz.

As part of the South Staffs Federation of TG members are invited to take part in a beetle drive on October 19, a dabble day on November 3 and the Christmas tea on December 7.

Pat Stanley is hosting a fashion show in conjunction with The Fashion Factory on September 27, 7pm at St Luke's Church, in aid of The Stroke Association.

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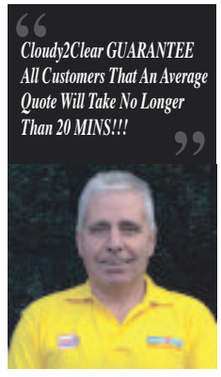

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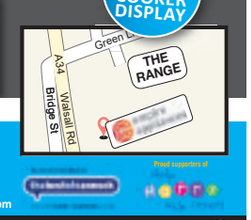

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Commissioner in call for synthetic drugs rethink

THE Commissioner for Police, Fire and Rescue and Crime in Staffordshire is calling on the Government to reclassify synthetic drugs as Class A substances.

Matthew Ellis joined other Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) urging a rethink over the drug known as spice.

Made up of herbal plant material coated in a man-made chemical, the increasingly common narcotic is currently a Class B drug. It is illegal to produce, supply or import in Britain.

Although spice is not as prevalent in the county as it is elsewhere in the UK, the Staffordshire Commissioner has supported his PCC colleagues in calling for the substance to be upgraded to the highest category.

Threat

Mr Ellis has also pushed for monkey dust to be given similar reclassification – after the powder-based stimulant has become widely used in Stafford and beyond.

The drug, also of Class B status, poses a severe threat to public health and society, with agitation, soaring blood rate, psychosis and paranoia among the effects.

Mr Ellis said: "Parts of Staffordshire face challenges from the increasing abuse of synthetic cannabinoid and cathinone class drugs.

"I'm concerned that substance misuse is a growing issue in the county – particularly Monkey Dust, which is especially prevalent in certain areas. Staffordshire's Chief Constable recently referred to it as the biggest public risk we are facing and I totally agree with him on that.

"It's really important the message gets out there that drug dealing is a scourge of society and a menace to communities, not to mention the strain it puts on our emergency and public services."

Tribute to tragic Tracey

Tracey's Juice Bar has been opened in memory of Tracey Adcock, *inset*

THE family of a Cannock woman who lost her fight for life this year have opened a juice and smoothie bar in the town in her memory.

Many of Tracey Adcock's own recipes can be found on the menu at the new Tracey's Juice Bar at the Newhall Shopping Centre.

Chloe Avon, aged 23, and her 18-year-old brother Jack Adda have worked tirelessly to bring something new to the town and create a legacy for their mother, teaching assistant Tracey.

Tracey had battled Fibrolamellar Hepatocellular Carcinoma, a rare liver cancer which affects one in five million people, for two years and one day but passed away on April 30.

During Tracey's battle she started a juicing blog to help others fight cancer with natural fruits and vegetables.

Chloe said: "We wanted to bring something different to Cannock."

Tracey's Juice Bar is filled with unusual floral decor and serves a range of smoothies, juices, chocolate crisps and banana halves.

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History festival's 140-plus events

STAFFORDSHIRE History Festival will be running through September and October. More than 140 events will be running at the county's libraries, archives and museums including exhibitions, talks, family history sessions, history walks and heritage open days.

Staffordshire County Council cabinet member for communities Councillor Gill Heath said the festival will help people in the county discover more about where they live.

She added: "It's great to see Staffordshire Libraries offering so many interesting events for the Staffordshire History Festival.

"The aim of this two-month celebration is to bring local and family history and culture alive. It will also help people discover the fascinating stories about the places where they live and show everyone how important libraries are in helping people on this journey of discovery."

Bandstand gathering will focus on plea to help needy

CANNOCK Soroptimists are to hold an information event to promote the work they do both locally and globally.

Members will be on the bandstand alongside St Luke's Church in Cannock town centre from 10am to 4pm on Friday, September 28.

One of the club's major issues at the moment is 'Period Poverty' with Soroptimists asking the public to donate sanitary items which will then be distributed to women and girls in need in and around Cannock by Staffordshire Women's Aid.

June Bould, president of Cannock Soroptimists, said: "The people of Cannock Chase are always so very generous when we collect for women in need locally.

"We're sure they will be this time – we will be delighted to see anyone who can make a donation of any sanitary item and also of any toiletry item which will then go to local refuges housing women and children victims of domestic abuse." Anyone who would like to donate items but are unable to go along on September 28 can email si.cannock@outlook.com and the Soroptimists will make arrangements for collection or delivery.

The next club meeting is on September 11 at The Barns, 6.30 for 7pm, when the speaker will be Police sergeant Sharon Smith, who will be talking about 'Honour-based Abuse and Murder'. The evening, including a two-course meal, costs £14.

Entries are open for next year's Ironman

ENTRIES to the Ironman 70.3 Staffordshire are officially open. More than 2,300 competitors took part in the mammoth challenge across the county on June 10 this year.

The race began with a 1.2-mile swim at Chasewater, followed by a 56-mile bike ride through the countryside and a 13.1-mile run, which ended in Stafford through stunning Staffordshire countryside. Organisers have now revealed that next year's event will take place on June 9.

The cost to take part in the Ironman event are separated into four tiers and range from £250 to £310. Tier One will be unavailable once all the tickets sell out and so on.

Athletes who register for the Staffordshire challenge and the Bolton event will get a discount of two per cent on the total price. This year, professional athletes Elliot Smailes (GBR) and Emma Pallant (GBR) were first across the line in Stafford. Register at eu.ironman.com/#axzz5PYgbDiSa

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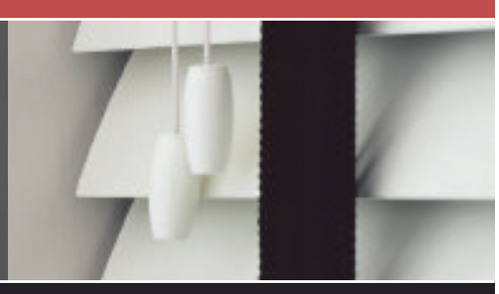
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Learning language on the brain

A TEACHER from Cheslyn Hay has set up a company that 'gives the brain a workout' by learning French.

Jane Handley, who launched JLH Languages last year, said: "There is increasing scientific evidence that suggests that we need to exercise our brain as well as our body if we want to live a healthier life for longer.

"Learning a language involves learning new skills, meeting with other people and is mentally stimulating."

Due to the popularity of her courses, Jane is extending the range of venues she uses. Jane is runnin free French taster courses next week at Great Wyrley Library, Cheslyn Hay Village Hall, Cheslyn Hay Sports Centre, Pelsall Village Centre, Burntwood Library, Norton Canes Library, Cannock Library and St Dominic's School in Brewood.

Call 07793 556020 or visit www.jlhlanguages.org

Gillian Loftus, left, and Jane Handley go continental

Minister in pledge to tackle prison drugs

NEW measures are being put in place to tackle the menace of drugs in prisons, Justice Secretary David Gauke said.

Mr Gauke was speaking after it emerged that an inmate at Oakwood Prison, in Featherstone, was unable to appear in court because he was 'under the influence' of drugs or alcohol.

It was also revealed last week that the number of drug finds at Stoke Heath Prison, near Market Drayton, had more than trebled over the past five years.

Mr Gauke said drugs were a major problem in prisons, and a number of new schemes were being trialled to address the matter.

But he ruled out any possibility of Oakwood – run by security company G4S – of being taken back under government control as has been done with HMP Birmingham.

David Gauke during his visit to Telford

He also said the problems identified at Birmingham were specific to that jail, and did not mean prisons should not be run by private companies.

Mr Gauke, who was addressing business leaders at Wolverhampton University's Telford campus, said new measures aimed at combatting drug use were being trialled at 10 prisons across the country.

But he said Oakwood had not been identified as having a specific problem.

"We do have a challenge regarding drugs in our prison estate," said Mr Gauke.

He said the problem had been exacerbated in recent years by the arrival of 'new psychoactive substances' – previously known as 'legal highs' – before they were prohibited in 2016.

"The new psychoactive substances have proved much easier to smuggle into prisons, and this is creating problems," he said.

Ambulance called each day to jail

PARAMEDICS were called to Oakwood Prison every day on average over the last five years, new figures show.

Ambulances were called to the Featherstone jail 562 times since the start of 2017 – more than once a day on average.

Since the start of 2013, there have been 1,711 emergency calls with chest pain and 'traumatic injuries' the most common reasons for emergency calls.

West Midlands Ambulance Service receives more calls to Oakwood, which has 2,000 inmates, than any other prison in the region.

Figures, released following a Freedom of Information request, show a total of 1,060 ambulance calls to Oakwood were for prisoners suffering with chest pain, 243 were for traumatic injuries and 27 for overdoses.

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Drama and laughs in line-up

LICHFIELD Garrick Theatre has unveiled its new autumn/winter season, offering drama, family entertainment, comedy, music, big screen movies and variety.

Among the highlights are Edgar Wallace's The Case of the Frightened Lady in October the theatre's pantomime, Dick Whittington, which due to popular demand will run for an extra week.

Karen Foster, the Garrick's executive director, said: "The star names keep coming to Lichfield with Brian Blessed, Alice Roberts, Bobby Davro and Strictly Come Dancing favourite Robin Windsor all taking to the main stage.

"The big laughs come from Lee Nelson, Alfie Moore and Henning Wehn."

There are also tribute acts showcasing the legacy of artists such as Johnny Cash, Bon Jovi and David Bowie.

Tickets for the new season are on sale now and can be booked via the box office in person, by calling 01543 412121 or visiting www.lichfieldgarrick.com

Shugborough issues appeal for volunteers

SHUGBOROUGH Estate has launched an appeal for volunteers – after axing more than 60 jobs two years ago. The National Trust, which runs the historic site, sent an email to its members this week asking them to give their time for free.

The trust took over the running of Shugborough from Staffordshire County Council in 2016 – offloading staff in the process. Twelve workers out of 73 kept their jobs. The email states: "Do you enjoy spending time in a beautiful place? Are you looking for a new adventure and to meet new people?

"We're looking for mansion volunteers to join our vibrant team and to inspire our visitors."

Shugborough's website adds: "We're looking for inspirational people to join us and play an active part in shaping and delivering our vision for the future of Shugborough."

County councillor Alan Dudson criticised the move. He said: "I believe it's totally unfair.

"They got rid of about 60 employees and want volunteers to work for nothing.

"If they can't run it without employing staff they should sell it off."

Owned

Councillor Paul Woodhead, who represents Hednesford South on Cannock Chase Council, said: "It would not surprise me if those very people that were made redundant sign up as volunteers, but that is not right."

The trust has owned the estate since 1966 and had previously leased it to the county council to run.

Hayley Mival, general manager at Shugborough, said: "We have seen a large growth in visitors to the estate and have developed what we do here to open up new roles for people to support us and get involved."

Gingham Girls inspire history society show

Elyse Barber, aged 13, will wear an original Gingham

A HISTORICAL society is gearing up for its annual show in October – with the gingham girls.

The gingham girls, who performed in the area in the 1960s and 70s, will be portrayed for the first time at this year's event at Cheslyn Hay Parish Hall, Pinfold Lane.

Elyse Barber, aged 13, will perform in a gingham costume from the 1970s alongside other girls. The event will run between 10am to 4pm.

Malcolm Podmore, from Cheslyn Hay and District Local History Society, said: "The gingham girls started somewhere in the 1960s and there was a number of troupes back then. They used to compete with other dance troupes and they would do contests all over the country with all different age groups."

"They're no longer a dance troupe. It's a thing from the past and this is a portrayal of them"

There will also be more than 8,000 photographs from society archives on display, dating back to 1841.

Brass band show

A RUGELEY church is to hold a Come Listen to the Band evening on Saturday. Lea Hall Brass Band will be playing at St Paul's Methodist/URC Church in Lichfield Street at 7pm. Admission is £7. For details call David Henshaw on 01889 586875.

Album tour for Jackie

FOLK musician Jackie Oates has released her seventh studio album.

The Joy of Living includes songs by Ewan McColl and John Lennon.

The 35-year-old singer and fiddle player, who is originally from Church Eaton, will be touring to promote the album including a concert on November 15 at Birmingham's Kitchen Garden Cafe.

Musicians tuning up for new season of jazz gigs

LICHFIELD Jazz launches its autumn season this month at a new venue – The Cathedral Hotel in Beacon Street.

The first gig on Wednesday, September 19 will feature Tobie Carpenter Organ Trio led by guitarist/composer Tobie Carpenter with Jamie Safir on organ and David Ingamells drums – three outstanding young musicians who play a mixture of their own compositions plus some standards.

Other shows lined up are Wednesday, October 17 – Alex Woods New York Quartet; Wednesday, November 21 – Nick Dewhurst Band; Wednesday, December 19 – Christmasmas special with the Lichfield Jazz Big Band.

All gigs start at 8pm, and admission is £10 or £5 for students. Full details of the new season can be found at www.nickdewhurst.com/lichfield-jazz-gigs

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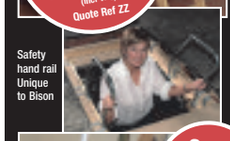

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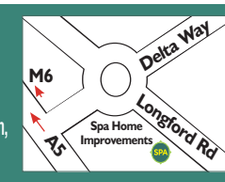

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Art group's work in museum display

HEATH Hayes Art Society are holding an exhibition/sale until October 9 in the cafe at The Museum Of Cannock Chase in Valley Road, Hednesford.

The theme of the artwork is floral and fauna, and many of the paintings are for sale. For details call 01543 578427 or contact the museum.

Employees to meet up again

FORMER employees of GEC Measurements and Alstom are being invited to reunion at The White Eagle Club, in Riverway, Stafford.

The event, which will take place from 7.30pm until 1am on October 26, will feature music from DJ Will Mcloughlin and guest DJs, a photo booth, and a raffle.

City centre to host heritage weekend

A HERITAGE weekend is planned in Lichfield city centre on September 22 and 23.

There will be guided tours, special activities for young visitors and street entertainment.

Many historic tourist attractions in the city will also be offering free admission for the weekend.

Poppy-making class

VISITORS to a Heath Hayes church can help make poppies for an Armistice Day display. A workshop takes place from 2pm on September 10 at Bourne Methodist, Hednesford Road. Refreshments will be served.

Classic Ferrari sells for sells for £37m

The classic Ferrari racing car in action on the track

A CLASSIC Ferrari racing car once owned by JCB chairman Lord Bamford has sold for a world record £37.6 million at an auction in California.

The red 1962 Ferrari 250 GTO – widely considered the most beautiful Ferrari design – is one of just 36 that were built and is considered the 'holy grail' of collector cars. It has a top speed of 174mph

It went under the hammer at the RM Sotheby's Monterey Sale with bidding starting at £27m.

Three anonymous telephone bidders battled it out to buy the 250 GTO, which was completed in late April 1962 and was the third production 250 GTO to be built. The winning bid was US $48.4m.

The car – valued in 1993 at £3.5m and in 2014 at £22.8m – was sold by car enthusiast Dr Greg Whitten, a former chief software architect at Microsoft who had owned it since 2000. Lord Bamford bought the car in 1970 and kept it until the 1980s, when he sold the Ferrari to collector Nigel Moores.

The 1962 Ferrari 250 GTOwas one of the most successful racing cars made by the legendary Italian car manufacturer and has never been involved in an accident or retired from a race.

It still retains its original three-litre V12 engine, gearbox and rear axle, as well as its factory Series II body from 1964.

Protection team launch

STAFFORDSHIRE Police have created a child protection team that launched this week.

The Child Protection and Exploitation Team (CPET) will comprise the existing Child Exploitation Team, child protection detectives who currently sit as part of the force CID and several colleagues from neighbourhood policing teams.

The team, based at Hanley and Stafford, will focus on all aspects of child protection and exploitation of children and young people up to the age of 18, including all rape and serious sexual offences.

Serious and complex exploitation and trafficking cases will also be taken on by the team. The Operation Safenet team, which is dedicated to proactively seek out those using the internet to view and exchange indecent images of children, will also be part of the wider team. Dedicated social workers from both Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire children's services will be working alongside the team specifically for child exploitation.

DI Simon Caton said: "This new team will allow our child protection officers to concentrate solely on obtaining the best possible outcomes for children in our communities. This will be by delivering justice through prosecution and conviction of offenders or working with our colleagues in children's services to provide effective safeguarding solutions for children at risk of significant harm."

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£2.5m drugs seized in raid on disused factory

New garage creates 45 jobs

Noel Muscutt from Bulleys, Philip Bartleet of Euro Garages, David Kay from Ask Developments, and Bob Tattrie of Trebor Developments

A NEW garage with a roadside store is creating about 45 permanent jobs next to Jaguar Land Rover's i54 engine plant on the M54.

Commercial property specialist Bulleys has attracted Euro Garages to the 0.4-acre site at The Gateway on junction 2 of the motorway where it will develop a new petrol filling station and convenience store.

Noel Muscutt, a partner at Bulleys, said: "We have previously brought a smart Porsche dealership and a busy Costa Coffee drive-through to The Gateway, and this deal with Euro Garages will now complete the redevelopment of what was formerly an eyesore patch of unused land."

Phil Bartleet, acquisitions surveyor at Euro Garages, said: "This is exactly the kind of opportunity which Euro Garages like to develop, with plenty of passing traffic, nearby businesses and space."

ONE of the largest drugs raid in the region this year has uncovered a huge haul of cannabis in an old factory.

Police seized £2.5 million worth of cannabis and a weapon in the raid at Brownhills Business Park.

Over two industrial units, almost 2,400 plants were found growing in 19 rooms across two separate floors.

Weapons were also found in the factory, including a deadly bat with nails in the end – dipped in faeces with the aim to cause infection.

Officers were first alerted to the site when an electricity engineer reported a power surge at a sub-station near Lindon Road and the smell of cannabis in the air.

No arrests have been made yet but West Midlands Police's specialist cannabis team believe there were at least 10 'growers' living there.

Smell

Police conducted the raid on Tuesday morning last week.

A spokesman for the force said: On August 28 we took a call from an electricity engineer reporting a power surge at a sub-station near Lindon Road, Brownhills, that was damaging fuses.

"He also reported a smell of cannabis in the air and reported his suspicions to police.

"Officers found an old factory unit in Brownhills Business Park off Lindon Road with up to 2,000 cannabis plants across two floors of two buildings – one of the largest cannabis factory finds this year.

"There are no arrests at this stage and inquiries are ongoing."

● A drugs warrant was executed at a property in Cedar Avenue, Brownhills, on Friday. Resident Vicky Mansell, aged 31, was arrested and charged with possession of cannabis and bailed to appear at Walsall Magistrates Court on September 21.

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Feel the noise! Wolves fans loudest in league

WOLVES had plenty to shout about as they made way back to the Premier League – now it seems their fans are loudest of all.

The team's supporters have sent out a message to the rest of the league when they arrive in Wolverhampton – Come On, Feel The Noise.

Wolves fans have been named as the noisiest in the Premier League, according to statistics released by an American expert.

The din made at Molineux has put the club to the top of the league in terms of noise levels.

The average noise created inside the ground so far this season has hit 85 decibels – just below a Boeing 737 at 90 decibels, while a live rock concert is around 110.

Record

That put Wolves ahead of Manchester City, Chelsea and Fulham on 82 and Crystal Palace and Everton on 81. Heavyweights Liverpool, Manchester United, Arsenal and Tottenham complete the top 10.

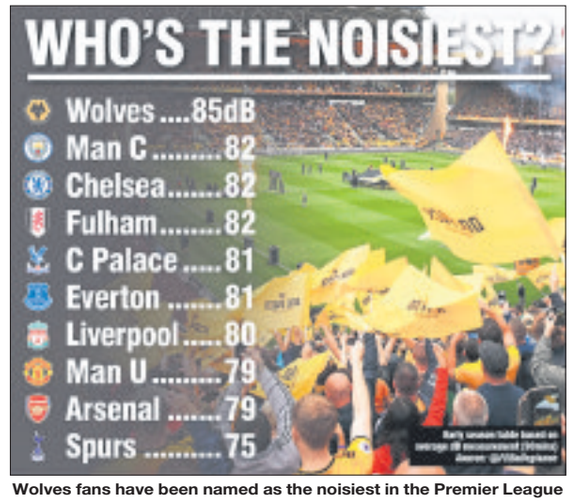
Record crowds for the rebuilt Molineux of more than 31,000 have packed in for the opening two Premier League games of this season.

Boss Nuno and his players have remarked on the difference playing in front of a partisan crowd can make.

Nuno said: "Our fans are special and we appreciate it."

Muriel Bates, who has been watching Wolves since 1944, said: "I was there when there was the old Molineux roar. My mother knew when they scored and she lived half-a-mile away.

"And it's nearly getting back towards that level."



Wolves fans have been named as the noisiest in the Premier League

Graduate sets up gastropub

A FORMER University of Wolverhampton graduate has set up a gastropub in his hometown.

Saroj Khanal, 28, an international student from Nepal who graduated in 2014, has launched the venture in Kathmandu, after studying for a post-graduate qualification in international hospitality.

The pub, called '6 Strings Restro and Pub', offers food, drinks and live music and is also a venue for parties and celebrations.

Saroj said: "I'd always had a lifelong ambition to own my own pub and restaurant in my own country and after studying for two years in Wolverhampton, where I was offered excellent support services and a wide range of extracurricular activities, I felt that I was prepared to open and run my own business."

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MP joins police on beat for campaign

MP Amanda Milling with Cannock police officers during a patrol of the town centre

CANNOCK Chase MP Amanda Milling joined officers for a patrol of Cannock town centre as part of the national Give A Day to Policing campaign.

She saw first-hand how PCSOs from Cannock neighbourhood policing team and response officers carried out their patrol, visiting shops and other business premises.

They also demonstrated CCTV, introduced local partners and discussed the challenges for local policing.

Ms Milling said: "It has been great coming along to spend the day with Cannock policing team. It has given me the opportunity to see how the police respond in a proactive and reactive way. Seeing it on the ground is a lot different, especially seeing the variation of jobs that come in."

Chief Insp Sarah Wainwright said: "Many opportunities and ideas were highlighted for Amanda and we are delighted she will continue to work closely with the local policing team. We will look forward to going out and about and discussing local policing with Amanda again."

New weight limit while ramp at car park is fixed

FURTHER restrictions have been imposed at the multi-storey car park in Cannock town centre, which closed recently, so that a service ramp can be repaired.

By David Banner

Engineering advice given to Cannock Chase Council has led to a weight limit of three tonnes maximum being imposed on all vehicles using the ramp.

As a result, a 2.6-metre height barrier is being installed, alongside signage, to prevent and advise vehicles of the limit and to not use the ramp.

The weight restriction will be in place for at least eight weeks.

All affected users known to the council were advised of the potential concerns surrounding the structure.

However, these concerns have now been confirmed, and action needs to be taken immediately to make the situation safe for all vehicles.

A contractor has been appointed to carry out the repairs. It is anticipated that the work will start within the next few weeks.

Once the repairs are complete, the weight restriction will revert to its former loading capacity of 75 tonnes. Temporary and alternative loading and unloading servicing arrangements for affected businesses is being arranged by the Council.

Specifically identified car parking bays in Church Street to the front of the Prince of Wales Theatre will be used to provide a solution for those affected.

Normal car parking enforcement restrictions are to be lifted in this area only during this period for the offloading and collection of goods.

Signs will be installed to advise road users while businesses are being urged to discuss the alternative arrangement with their suppliers.

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Dozens queue for launch of housing development

How Taylor Wimpey West Midlands' Cherry Blossom development in Hednesford will look

HOMEBUYERS were queuing up to put their names down on the list for a new housing development in Hednesford.

Taylor Wimpey West Midlands welcomed visitors to the launch of its Cherry Blossom development, near Hednesford Town Football Club.

The development will be a mix of two, three and four-bedroom homes off Keys Park Road, on the eastern edge of Hednesford.

Once complete, the development will boast 127 properties, according to Taylor Wimpey. Queues formed to speak to sales executives when the sales suite at the site opened, with more than 50 visitors on the first day – and the sales team took nine reservations.

Elaine Cartwright, sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey West Midlands, said her team were 'really excited' to launch the development, which she described as 'perfectly placed'.

She said: "We were overwhelmed by the interest in Cherry Blossom during the launch weekend. Hednesford is a charming town and we know there is plenty of demand for new homes in the area so we were really excited to launch the development, which is perfectly placed for residents to enjoy everything the town has to offer while still being close to the Staffordshire countryside.

" Cherry Blossom will be of particular interest to first time buyers and growing families and it's clear there are plenty of people who'd like to call the development home."

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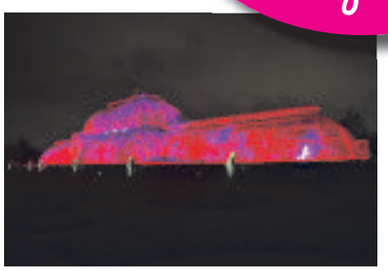

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Campaign to help restore Stanley's bridge

Stanley Deakin with Martyn Baskeyfield and Sean Martin from Stone Surgeons with fundraiser Rob Price

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to help repair a 250-year-old bridge after vandals struck.

People are rallying behind 81-year-old Stanley Deakin and have helped him to raise nearly £1,000 in almost two weeks to repair the bridge on his land in Rugeley.

The pillars of the bridge were knocked down along with the vases on top, while garden seats were thrown into the stream and the railings were damaged. An online fundraising campaign has been launched, and the money will be spent on repairing the bridge and increasing security.

He said: "I am very grateful that so many people have taken an interest in this."

More than £920 has been raised since the campaign was launched on August 22 with a £5,000 target.

To donate, visit www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/savehagley

Wildlings extended to meet demand

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust is to hold afternoon Wildlings sessions at its Wolseley Centre for the first time following a surge in demand.

Wildlings was launched last year, with sessions taking place at various other locations in the county, including Leek and Wombourne. Now, due to the popularity of the morning Wildlings at Wolseley, afternoon sessions will take place every Friday this month between 1.30 and 3pm.

Wildlings gives children, aged from six months to five-years-old, the chance to play and explore nature in the outdoor classroom, uninterrupted by adults. Aimee Burrows, Wildchild officer for Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, said: "Throughout the summer, Wildlings has sold out and we've been told by plenty of parents that it would be nice if we could do afternoon sessions too, as their children attend nursery in the morning so can't attend."

The afternoon sessions will launch tomorrow (Friday). To book, go to www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/Whats-On.

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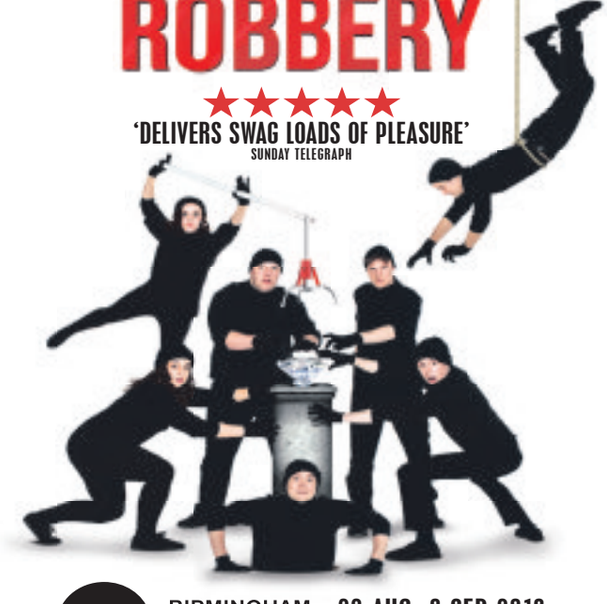
THE WEST END SMASH HIT FROM THE CREATORS OF
THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

THE COMEDY ABOUT A
BANK ROBBERY

★★★★★
'DELIVERS SWAG LOADS OF PLEASURE'
SUNDAY TELEGRAPH



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Mr and Mrs Dale, Walsall

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These are known as Mirror Wills. Sounds reassuring enough, doesn't it? But your children could end up with very little - or even nothing at all.

If your surviving spouse has to go into care, they will have to use their assets to pay for their care until they get down to their last £14,250. Therefore, it's not a good idea to leave your half share of the home to your surviving partner but instead leave them the USE of your share. This can be achieved by making new **Property Trust Wills.**

These legitimate steps must be taken while you are both alive and in reasonably good mental health. It is therefore important for couples to act NOW!

Most of our clients come to us having already made standard Mirror Wills, or they've been meaning to make a Will but simply haven't got around to it. With Property Trust Wills, yourself and your spouse/partner each leave your half share of the home to the children in Trust, but state that they are not to receive it during the lifetime of the surviving spouse/partner.

This half would then NOT be included in any future means test calculations for care fees. The surviving spouse is free to sell their share of the home, raise cash or move house. Your children are powerless to intervene but simply have to wait for their inheritance, as they would have done previously.

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April King Legal have prepared a jargon-free guide to protecting your hard-earned assets. Get in touch for your FREE copy today. Your details remain confidential and will never be passed to any third party.

This invaluable information guide explains why we do NOT recommend giving the house to your children during your lifetime (deliberate deprivation) or selling up and moving into an annex in their garden!

It also includes details of Lasting Power of Attorney and our special Bloodline Trust Wills which help prevent your children and grandchildren from losing their inheritance due to a child's divorce, remarriage or financial difficulties.

To order your **FREE**, no obligation information pack or to request an initial free one hour Will Review meeting at one of our offices visit **aprilking.co.uk** or call us today on

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Bungalow has been fully refurbished throughout

Being fully refurbished throughout, 2 St Johns Close, Slitting Mill, is an exceptional three bedroomed detached bungalow in a sought after village.

On a large corner plot with gardens to three sides, it is for sale through JR Distinctive Homes at £425,000.

It has an entrance hallway, kitchen/diner, lounge, laundry, three bedrooms, one en-suite and a family bathroom.

In more detail a modern front door opens to the entrance hallway which has solid oak wooden flooring. Doors lead to the lounge, kitchen/diner, laundry, storage cupboards, a family bathroom and bedrooms.

The large dining area has space for a full dining room table and double glazed UPVC windows to side aspect, plus double doors with glass panelling leading to the lounge.

The lounge is spacious and well presented, having a focal wood burner with granite surround and an oak beam fireplace, solid wooden flooring, a large double glazed UPVC bay window to the front and a additional window to the side.

The laundry has space for a washing machine and a tumble dryer, a base unit, sink, combi boiler and splash back tiling, and a door to the rear.

The master bedroom is one of three double bedrooms, having built-in wardrobes alongside the left hand side wall, a large double glazed UPVC bay window to the front and an open en-suite area with laminate wood-effect flooring.

Bedroom two has a large bay window to the front and built-in wardrobes. Bedroom three has a window to the side, built-in wardrobes and a desk area.

The spacious family bathroom has a double free-standing shower, a bath, WC, wash hand basin with additional base units and grey floor tiling.

SLITTING MILL £425,000

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: JR Distinctive Homes

TEL: 01889 577731

EMAIL: enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

KEY FEATURES

Detached bungalow
3 bedrooms
Corner plot position
Refurbished
Sought after village

They're sold

Turn to your local estate agent to sell your property and you will be **SOLD ON:**

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- **Free valuation**
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- **Registered house hunters**
- **Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast**

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.

on the move

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OLD PENKRIDGE MEWS

- Town Centre
- 2 Bed End Terraced
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating D
- NO DSS OR PETS

£595 pcm

KIELDER CLOSE HEATH HAYES

- 2 Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- GCH & DG
- Driveway
- Rating E
- NO DSS / PETS

£695 pcm

LONGFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- Three Bed End
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Guest WC
- En-Suite, Bathroom
- Gardens, Parking
- Energy Rating C
- NO DSS/PETS

£695 pcm

MANDERLEY HOUSE,SANDY LANE, CANNOCK

- 2Bed GFF
- Lounge/Kitchen
- GCH/DG
- En suite to Master
- Communal Garden
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating B

£695 pcm

BELLBROOK, PENKRIDGE

- Two/Three Bed End Terrace
- Lounge/Diner
- Modern Breakfast Kitchen
- Modern Fitted Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Gardens & Parking
- NO DSS OR PETS

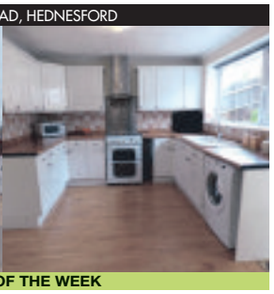
£795 pcm

LITTLEWORTH ROAD, HEDNESFORD

- Individually Designed Newly Built Three Storey Detached Family Home
- Impressive Open Plan Lounge, Dining and Kitchen Area
- Utility & Study Area
- Four Bedrooms
- Garage, Driveway
- Balcony & Gardens
- Viewing Essential to Appreciate

£350,000

LITTLEWORTH ROAD, HEDNESFORD



PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

- MOTIVATED SELLERS
- A Unique Detached Bungalow with Potential Annex
- Reception Hall, Lounge, Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Conservatory, Dining Room
- Three Bedrooms, Re-Fitted Bathroom, Shower Room
- Sitting Room, Detached Garage
- Delightful Gardens

£279,950

PACKINGTON MEWS, CANNOCK

- Entrance Hall
- Impressive Gardens
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Guest WC/ Utility
- Three Storey
- Modern Kitchen-Diner
- Garage & Driveway

£274,995 OIRO

FOXFIELDS WAY, HUNTINGTON

- A Very Well Presented Three Bedroom Detached family Home.
- Through hallway, Guest WC
- Family Lounge, Conservatory, Re-Fitted Kitchen
- En-Suite, Re-Fitted Family Bathroom
- Front, Rear and Side Gardens
- Garage and Driveway.

£215,000

CHURCH ROAD, NORTON CANES

- Well Presented Detached Family Home
- Family Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Well Stocked Rear Garden With Open Views
- Driveway & Garage

OIRO £199,950

GREENHEATH ROAD, HEDNESFORD

- A Well Presented Detached Bunglow
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two DOUBLE Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Driveway and Detached Garage
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

OIEO £175,000

STAGBOROUGH WAY, HEDNESFORD

SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED

- A Beautifully Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen/ Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden with Workshop
- Driveway

£169,950

ABBEY STREET, HEDNESFORD

- A Well Presented Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Lounge, Dining room, Guest WC, Kitchen
- Two DOUBLE Bedrooms, Spacious Family Bathroom
- Detached Garage, Off Road Parking
- Delightful Front and Rear Gardens
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL

£150,000

PENKRIDGE COURT, CANNOCK

"A Modern Well Presented Duplex Apartment Situated in Cannock Town Centre

- Security Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen, Bathroom
- Two DOUBLE Bedrooms
- Modernised En-Suite
- Allocated Parking

£137,500

FIELDHOUSE ROAD, HEDNESFORD

- A Spacious Three Bed Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Spacious Dining Room
- Ground Floor Bathroom, Kitchen
- Three bedrooms, Provisions for Off Road Parking at Rear
- Front and Good Sized Rear Gardens
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£129,950 NO CHAIN

WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, CANNOCK

NO CHAIN

- TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- Lounge
- Impressive Breakfast Kitchen
- Two DOUBLE Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Integral Garage
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL TO APPRECIATE

£124,995 OIRO

CHURCH STREET, CHADSMOOR

SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED

- Mid Terraced House
- Two Reception Rooms
- Impressive Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Two DOUBLE bedrooms
- Spacious Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Parking At Rear
- Delightful Rear Gardens

£120,000

STATION STREET, CHESLYN HAY

SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED

- A Traditional Two Bedroom End Terraced House
- D/G, Gas Connected to Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£115,000

VAN GOGH CLOSE, HEATH HAYES

SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED

- A One Bed First Floor Maisonette situated in a Popular Residential Location
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Double Bedroom with Built in Wardrobes
- Bathroom
- Two Allocated Parking Spaces
- Communal Gardens

£75,000 OIRO

VINE COURT, CANNOCK

- Third floor retirement apartment
- Wide range of facilities within the complex
- Security intercom, Lift access
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms and wet room
- 24 hour care on hand
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£25,000 25% Shared Ownership

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JR PROPERTIES

T:01889 577731
E:enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

St Johns Close, Slitting Mill — £425,000

JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this exceptional three bedroom detached bungalow situated in the sought after village of Slitting Mill. The bungalow occupies an enviable position on a large corner plot with gardens to three sides. Internally the property has been completely refurbished to a very high standard by the present occupiers and an internal

Churchdale Cottage, Rugeley — £699,950

●● Including additional two bedroom coach house●● JR Distinctive Homes are delighted to offer for sale this stunning traditional family residence with a waterside location which has to be seen to be believed! Churchdale Cottage represents a rare opportunity to acquire a very substantial property in this unique canal side setting on the edge of Rugeley

Oakfield Close, Etching Hill — £550,000

● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this superb detached residence sat in a mature garden plot of approximately 1/3 of an acre. "Tanglewood" is positioned at the top of a private drive, being one of only seven properties and is located on the rural fringe of Cannock Chase.

Oakwood, Etching Hill — £500,000 OIEO

JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this executive detached family home in an exceptional location on the rural fringes of Cannock Chase-An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This beautifully presented family homes offers flexible accommodating and enjoys a mature garden plot in an exclusive private drive with its very own copse situated to the side

Distinctive Homes

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JR PROPERTIES

www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com

We're Selling... Are You...?

CALL US FOR **FREE** VALUATION

Salisbury Close, Rugeley £299,950 OIEO

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious four bedroom detached property situated on a corner plot with views towards Cannock Chase to rear. The property benefits from refitted bathrooms, large reception rooms, plentiful parking to front and landscaped rear garden, viewing essential

St Johns Drive, Hawksyard £229,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious three bedroom detached family home situated on the ever popular Hawksyard development. The property sits on a corner position at the beginning of the development and overlooks a green area to the front. Internally the current vendors have

Wolseley Road, Rugeley

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this immac bedroom detached family home. The property is situat and local amenities. Internally a stylish high end interi kitchen/diner at the heart of this lovely property. Viewi

Lower Birches Way, Rugeley £275,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious detached property situated on a generous garden plot with detached garage to the side. Offered with No Upward Chain all reasonable offers will be considered for a quick sale. The property comprises: Hallway, Study, Family Room, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Guest WC, Four bedrooms, Two En Suites and Main Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens with parking and detached garage

Chase Side Drive, Rugeley £235,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented three bedroom detached house in a highly sought after area. This family home is presented to show home standard and an internal inspection is highly recommended. The property also has the added benefit of being offered with No Upward Chain

Blakeley Close, Rugeley £135,000

● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented two bedroom terraced home, ideal for FIRST TIME BUYERS OR INVESTORS. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Fitted Kitchen and Lounge. Landing to Two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear and allocated parking in separate car park.

Brereton Road, Rugeley £375,000

● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this much improved four bedroom traditional semi detached property with many period features with a self contained annex to rear. The property also benefits from solar panels. This family sized property sits on a generous garden plot and offers a flexible accommodation, viewing is highly recommended to appreciate and the property is also offered with No Upward Chain

Rangers Walk, Etching Hill

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this deligh area. The two bedroom bungalow has been vastly imp viewing is highly recommended. The accommodation conservatory, Refitted Bathroom, Two bedrooms, Gara

Cocketts Nook, Rugeley £134,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious three bedroom semi detached property offered with No Upward Chain. The property is an ideal FTB/ Investment purchase and viewing is essential. Accommodation comprises: Hallway, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens with

Cornwall Court, Rugeley £127,500

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom mid terrace house with off road parking and garage. The spacious property has lots of potential and is ripe for improvement/ development. Internally there are three bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom. The property has gardens to the front and

The Beeches, Rugeley £200,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented and refurbished detached bungalow in a popular cul de sac location. The property must be viewed to appreciated the quality of work and standard of fitments throughout and accommodation briefly comprises: Hallway, Stunning Refitted Kitchen, Dining Room, Lounge, Luxury Refitted Bathroom, Two bedrooms, front and rear gardens, driveway with garage

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"Serving Ru

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E:enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

JR PROPERTIES

£285,000

culately presented and much improved three/four
ed in a sought after area close to the town centre
or can be found throughout with a superb refitted
ng is highly recommended

Birches Valley, Cannock £285,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this rare opportunity to acquire a three bedroom semi detached house in the heart of Cannock Chase-An area of outstanding natural beauty. The property must be viewed to appreciate the accommodation on offer which briefly comprises hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen,

Chaseley Road, Etching Hill £199,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this immaculately presented and much improved three bedroom link detached family home located on the rural fringes of Cannock Chase. Viewing is highly recommended and particular attention should be brought to the modern kitchen/diner and good sized lounge,

We're Selling... Are You...?
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FREE
VALUATION

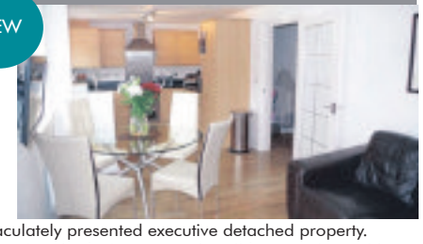
Main Road, Brereton £225,000

NEW

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this traditional semi detached cottage close by to local amenities. Delightful original features and exceptional presentation feature throughout this property. To the rear is a superb garden lovingly maintained buy the present occupiers. Internally the accommodation comprises: Porch, Sitting Room, Dining Kitchen, Conservatory, Utility Room, Two bedrooms, Modern Bathroom, Gardens and off road parking

Levett Grange, Rugeley £269,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this immaculately presented executive detached property. Situated in a private drive with an open aspect to the front and private rear gardens this property must be viewed. Internally there are four bedrooms, two bathrooms and large kitchen/ diner

£219,950

tful link detached bungalow in a sought after
roved by the current sellers and an internal
comprises: Hallway, lounge, kitchen with open plan
ge and gardens with off road parking

Armitage Road, Rugeley £385,000

NEW

● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this superb traditional detached property which has been upgraded and refurbished throughout by the present vendors. Offering flexible family accommodation and situated on a large garden plot with extensive parking this property simply has to viewed to appreciate. Dating back to circa 1880

Lower Lodge, Armitage £99,950

NEW PRICE

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom mobile home situated on Lower Lodge in Armitage. Offered with No Upward Chain the property has lovely open views from the gardens and parking to front. Accommodation includes hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, gardens

Holly Cottage, Colton £399,950

NEW

● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this traditional detached cottage situated on an elevated plot within the Village of Colton. Holly Cottage has many features and an internal inspection is highly recommended. Externally the property has well maintained cottage gardens and also benefits from a detached double garage and plentiful parking. A rear hidden gem that must be viewed to appreciate

Cheviot Drive, Rugeley £169,950

NEW

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious three bedroom link detached family home. The property is situated on a good sized plot and offers lots of potential in a good location. There are three good sized bedrooms and large reception space on the ground floor. Viewing essential

Lansdowne Way, Rugeley £149,950

NEW

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious semi detached property in a popular location. The property is offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN and the accommodation comprises: Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens with garage (separate

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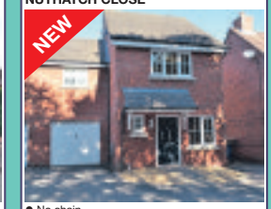
BURNTWOOD
CHASE VALE
NEW

- Fully Renovated
- Immaculately presented
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Lounge/diner
- Two double bedrooms
- Enclosed rear garden
- Garage & Driveway
- Viewing Essential

£245,000

HEATH HAYES
NUTHATCH CLOSE
NEW

- No chain
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/diner
- Family bathroom
- En-suite
- Driveway
- Garage
- EPC Rating C

£189,950

HEATH HAYES
NEWLANDS LANE
NEW

- A spacious 3 bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, conservatory
- Kitchen, dining area
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Family bathroom
- Front and rear gardens
- Driveway and garage
- EPC rating D

£269,950

CANNOCK
HATHERTON ROAD
NEW

- Traditional Two bedroom
- Two reception rooms
- Newly fitted kitchen
- Newly fitted bathroom
- Enclosed Garden
- Driveway
- Two double bedrooms
- Sought after location
- EPC rating E

169,950

HEDNESFORD
HILL STREET
NEW

- A spacious three bedroom bungalow
- Lounge, sitting room, kitchen/diner
- Utility room
- Shower room
- Dressing room/wash room
- Garden to rear
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£255,000

SHOAL HILL
DORCHESTER ROAD
NEW

- A spacious 2/3 bedroom detached
- Lounge/diner, conservatory
- Sitting room/bar area
- Study, kitchen,utility,guest cloakroom
- MAster bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom, Lift
- Gardens front, side and rear
- Double garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£390,000

CHESLYN HAY
WESTON ROAD
NEW

- A spacious three bedroom
- Lounge/diner
- Fitted kitchen
- Conservatory
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Off road parking
- Awaiting EPC rating

£189,950

HEATH HAYES
DENBURY CLOSE
NEW PRICE

- A three bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- Garage and driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£200,000

CANNOCK
MORETON STREET
NEW PRICE

- A two bedroom detached bungalow
- Central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, shower room
- Two bedrooms
- Good sized rear garden
- In need of modernisation
- Awaiting EPC rating

£104,950

PENKRIDGE
LITTLE MARSH PARK

- A spacious two bedroom park home
- Kitchen, sitting room
- Lounge, dining room
- Guest cloakroom
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Canal side setting

£119,950

WIMBLEBURY
JOHN STREET

- An extended three bedroom
- Additional loft room
- Lounge/diner
- Kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Off road parking
- Garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£184,950

NORTON CANES
ARBOUR MEWS

- A spacious three bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room, conservatory
- Breakfast kitchen
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Family bathroom
- Driveway and garage
- Private drive location
- EPC rating D

£249,950

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PROPERTY

Character property set in the heart of the countryside bordering Cannock Chase has been brought up to date

A character property that has been lovingly brought up to date by the current owners, sparing no expense, Pine Cottage in Bishton Lane, Stafford, is for sale through Lovett & Co at offers over £500,000.

This charming four-bedroomed detached cottage is set in the heart of the Staffordshire countryside bordering Cannock Chase, an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Finished throughout to an extremely high standard with master craftsmanship, the property originates back to the 1850s with work carried out on the cottage during the renovation including solid oak flooring and replacement beams, slate tiled flooring in the kitchenand a central heating system.

Other features include a gated driveway for several vehicles and separate gated driveway with access to the double garage. There are also stunning views to the surrounding countryside and farmland.

The property has two floors. On the ground floor there is a lounge, sitting room, study/sitting area and a breakfast kitchen. On the first floor is a landing, shower room and four bedrooms.

Contact Lovett & Co on 01543 889410.

STAFFORD
£500,000

Modern four double-bedroomed property with a refitted kitchen/diner is well-presented throughout

Well-presented throughout, this modern four double-bedroomed property in Kinross Avenue, Hednesford, comes with a refitted modern kitchen/diner.

It is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £269,950.

In a popular location, in brief its accommodation comprises an entrance hallway, a lounge, a re-fitted modern breakfast kitchen, a utility and guest WC, and a second reception room.

To the first floor there are four double bedrooms with the master having an en-suite shower room and a further family bathroom.

Externally the property has an enclosed well-stocked rear garden. Parking is provided via the full-width block paved driveway.

Viewing is essential to appreciate the overall size.

The selling agents say they are expecting a great deal of interest to be shown in the sale of this charming property.

Contact Webbs Estate Agents on 01543 468846.

HEDNESFORD
£269,950

Webbs
Estate Agents

01543 468846

153 Avon Road
Cannock WS11 1LF

E: sales@webbsestateagents.co.uk
W: webbsestateagents.co.uk

Free Valuations

No Sale

No Fee

Experienced Sales Team

Established 1994

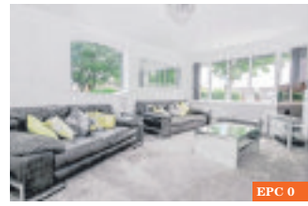
rightmove.co.uk

The Property Ombudsman

NAEA Estate Agents

NEW

The Gables, Barnswood Close, Cannock
Cannock

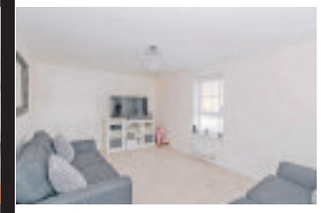


- Stunning Executive Home
- Impressive Entrance
- Lounge, Guest W.C.
- Stunning Family Kitchen
- Five/Six Bedrooms
- Two En-Suites, Bathroom
- Landscape Gardens
- Viewing is Paramount

£595,000

NEW

Freeman Drive, Halum way

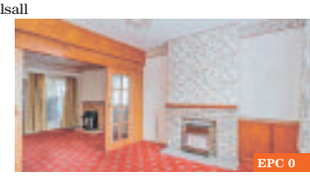


- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen Diner
- Lounge
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Guest W.C.
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Garage Driveway
- Viewing Essential

£230,000

NEW

Jacobs Hall Lane, Walsall
Walsall



- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen Diner
- Shower Room
- Guest WC
- Enclosed Mature Rear Garden
- In Need Of Cosmetic Improvement
- Early Viewing Essential

£150,000

NEW

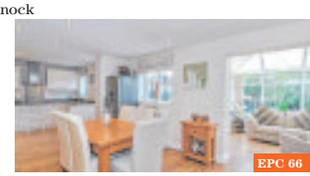
Huntington Terrace Road, Cannock
Cannock

- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen, Utility
- Guest W.C.
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Generous Garden
-

£125,950

NEW

Foxfields Way, Huntington, Cannock
Cannock

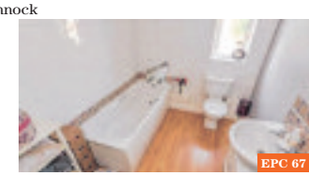


- Stunning
- Three/Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- Conservatory
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Landscaped Rear Garden
- Quiet Location
- Viewing Essential

£260,000

NEW

Mount Street, Hednesford, Cannock
Cannock



- Two Double Bedrooms
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Generous Lounge
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- First Floor
- Close To Local Amenities
- Viewing Recommended

£80,000

NEW

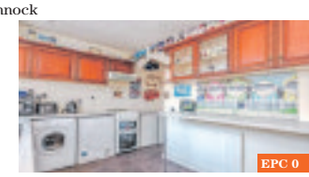
Cobden Close, Hednesford, Cannock
Hednesford, Cannock

- Hallway
- Lounge
- Exgtended Kitchen Diner
- Utility, Giest W.C.
- Conservatory
- One Bedrooms
- Shower room
- Garage

£119,950

NEW

Cleveland Drive, Cannock
Cannock



- Lounge
- Hallway
- Guest W.C.
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage
- Gardens

£145,000

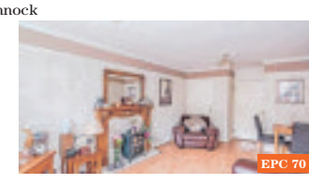
NEW

Copperkins Road, Hednesford, Cannock
Cannock

- Three Bedrooms
- Extended Kitchen Diner
- Lounge
- Family Three Piece Bathroom
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Quiet Location
- Viewing Recommended

£160,000

New Penkridge Road, Cannock
Cannock



- Ground Floor
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Three Piece Bathroom
- Enviable Size Bedroom
- Commnal Gardens
- Sought After Location
- Viewing Essential

£90,000

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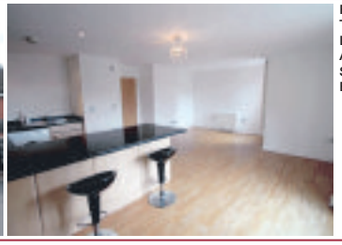
Rugeley
01889 358689

Jayman

Cannock
01543 505566

Cannock Road, Heath Hayes



First Floor Apartment
Two Bedrooms
Living / Kitchen Area
Allocated Parking
Security Entrance
EPC C

Offers Around £100,000

St Pauls Road, Cannock

Semi Detached Property
Two Bedrooms
Louinge
Kitchen / Diner
Off Road Parking
EPC C

Offers Around £130,000

Anglesey Street, Hednesford

Offers Around £125,000

Terraced Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Off Road Parking
EPC E

Ascot Drive, Cannock

Semi Detached Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Off Road Parking
NO CHAIN
EPC D

Offers Around £140,000

Lakeside Boulevard, Cannock

Offers Over £180,000

Semi Deatched Property
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen / Diner
Two Bathrooms
Rear Garden
EPC C

Woodland Close, Hednesford

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Two Reception Rooms
Rear Garden
Off Road Parking
EPC D

Offers Around £145,000

Chancery Drive, Hednesford

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Extended Kitchen / Utility
Conservatory
Off Road Parking
EPC C

Offers Around £190,000

Albert Street, Cannock

Offers Over £190,000

Detached Bungalow
Three Bedrooms
Two Reception Rooms
Good Sized Plot
Two Double Garages
EPC E

Nuthurst Drive, Cannock

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen, Utility Room
Off Road Parking, Garage
Rear Garden
Awaiting EPC

Offers Around £190,000

Saxon Road, Penkridge

Offers Around £260,000

Extended Link Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Garage
EPC D

Cecil Street, Cannock

Semi Detached Property
Five Bedrooms
Conservatory
Off Road Parking
Rear Garden
EPC E

Offers Around £200,000

Rokholt Crescent, Cannock

Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Two Reception Rooms
Double Garage
Rear Garden
EPC D

Offers Around £325,000

Free Valuations

Covering: Cannock, Hednesford, Rugeley, Lichfield, Burntwood, Tamworth and Brownhills

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Photography of typical Kier showhome interiors. Elevations and finishes may vary. *Available on selected plots subject to terms and conditions. **Help to buy available upon request subject to terms and conditions.

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Uttoxeter Property Auction - Weds 19th Sept at 3pm

Brinsford Farm - Brinsford, Featherstone
Auction Guide Price: see individual lots

Lot 1 - Imposing farmhouse, requiring modernisation plus paddock of 3.32 acres. EPC rating F. **Auction Guide Price: IRO £350,000 to £450,000**
Lot 2 - Impressive range of barns, approx 14,000 sq.ft within 2.83 acres.
Redevelopment Potential **Auction Guide Price: IRO £175,000 to £250,000**

The Stores - Bednall, Stafford
Auction Guide Price: £180,000 to £210,000

A fantastic opportunity to purchase a two bedroom detached property, incorporating the old village stores, with scope for modernisation, situated within the rural village of Bednall. Includes a rear garden and separate garage. EPC rating awaited.

Bumble Cottage - Albrighton
Auction Guide Price: IRO £225,000 to £235,000

Attractive, semi-detached cottage situated on the outskirts of the Village of Albrighton with a large garden and unfenced paddock. Requires some modernisation and offers the potential to be a lovely family home. EPC rating E.

3 OLd Hall Cottage - Ivetsey Bank, Wheaton Aston
Guide Price: OIRO £470,000

For Sale by Private Treaty - Spacious three bedroom detached property within this sought after village. This property has been finished to a high standard, is immaculate inside and out and simply must be viewed to be appreciated. EPC rating B.

Email: penkridge@bagshaws.com Tel: 01785 716600 www.bagshaws.com
rightmove Zoopla CAAV RICS

The Guide Price is issued as an indication of the auctioneer's opinion of the likely selling price of the property. Each property offered is subject to a Reserve Price which is agreed between the seller and the auctioneer just prior to the auction and which would ordinarily be within 10% (+/-) of the Guide Price. Both the Guide Price and the Reserve Price can be subject to change up to and inc. the day of the auction. For a full definition of Guide Price and Reserve Price please visit www.bagshaws.com

Lovett & Co. estate agents

ONLY 0.9%* INC VAT

* terms and conditions apply

The Hollies
CHESLYN HAY

Outstanding six bedroom detached family home / Set on an exclusive private cul-de-sac / Sought after village of Cheslyn Hay / Finished to a show home standard throughout / Six large well proportioned

£450,000

Heather Valley
HEDNESFORD

Stunning four bedroom detached family home / Set on highly sought after semi rural area / Occupies good sized corner plot / Mature three tier private rear garden / Driveway for up to six vehicles

£450,000

Castlecroft
NORTON CANES

Executive four bedroom detached family home / Highly sought after residential cul-de-sac / Stunning rear orangery / driveway with parking for two vehicles and separate double garage / NO CHAIN

£450,000

Littleworth Road
RAWNSLEY

Five bedroom detached family home / NO UPWARD CHAIN / Breakfast kitchen / Drive for more than ten vehicles / Enclosed rear garden / EPC: C

Offers in Excess of £400,000

Pinetrees
BRERETON

Stunning four bedroom detached house / High spec contemporary finish / Private driveway & double garage / Stunning open pan kitchen & large conservatory

£384,995

Castlecroft
NORTON CANES

Immaculately presented executive four bedroom detached house / Exclusive sought after cul-de-sac location / Spacious reception rooms & bedrooms / Victorian style conservatory / Garage and drive

£375,000

Wellington Drive
CANNOCK

Outstanding & superbly maintained four/five bedroom detached family home / Set in quiet semi rural location overlooking woodland to the front / Immaculately presented & finished to high standard

£335,000

Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY

Well presented five bedroom detached family home / Set in sought after area / Substantial two storey side extension / Contemporary open plan layout / Rear conservatory / Superb high spec fitted

£325,000

Kingfisher Drive
HEDNESFORD

Immaculately presented three bedroom detached bungalow / Set on large secluded plot / Large private driveway for up to four vehicles / Substantial landscaped rear & side gardens / Spacious living &

£300,000

Ingestre Close
HEATH HAYES

Well presented four/five bedroom executive detached house / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Useful ground floor bedroom/sitting room / Good sized private rear garden

£280,000

Shugborough Way
HEATH HAYES

Superbly maintained & well presented four bedroom detached family home / Substantial amount of work carried out by current vendors / Additional conservatory / Rear garage conversion / Further sitting

£280,000

Woodfield Drive
NORTON CANES

Well presented three bedroom detached bungalow / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Driveway for up to three vehicles / Landscaped low maintenance rear garden / Modern fitted kitchen / Part converted attic

£250,000

Dorchester Road
CANNOCK

Three bedroom detached family home / Sits on large corner plot / Two car driveway & garage / Large private rear garden / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation

£250,000

Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY

Three bedroom detached family home / Sought after location / Off road parking for 2/3 / Victorian pitched roof conservatory / Spacious lounge & separate dining room

Offers in Excess of £240,000

Pine Close
GREAT WYRLEY

Deceptively spacious two bedroom detached bungalow / Immaculately presented throughout with tasteful decoration / Modern fitted open plan kitchen-diner / Driveway with parking for up

£230,000

Devonshire Drive
RUGELEY

Refurbished three bedroom semi detached bungalow / Spacious open plan living area / Three double bedrooms / Modern fitted bathroom with skylight / Parking & garage to the rear

Offers in the Region Of £220,000

Juniper Close
HAZEL SLADE

Immaculately presented three bedroom semi detached family home / New high spec Howdens fitted kitchen / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Fully refurbished / Spacious lounge diner / semi rural area / Garage

Offers in Excess of £180,000

Pheasant Way
HEATH HAYES

Well presented three bedroom end of terrace house / NO CHAIN / Parking to the rear plus a separate garage / Good sized lounge / Private rear garden / En-suite to the master

£170,000

Chapel Street
NORTON CANES

Modern finished two bedroom semi detached house / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Off road parking on private driveway for three vehicles / Landscaped private rear garden / Modern fitted

£155,000

Brooklyn Road
HEATH HAYES

Two bedroom end terraced house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Modern re-fitted kitchen and bathroom / Good sized low maintenance private rear garden / Off road residents parking

£150,000

Stevens Drive
HEDNESFORD

Two bedroom semi detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Driveway with off road parking / New carpets in the lounge, stairs and landing / New bathroom

£140,000

Grove Close
CANNOCK

Two bedroom semi detached house / End of a quiet sought after cul-de-sac / Good sized lounge / Modern fitted open plan kitchen-diner / Modern fitted shower room / Good sized rear garden / Parking for

£140,000

Chequers Court
NORTON CANES

Well presented and deceptively spacious two bedroom property / Close to local shops and amenities / Close to local shops and amenities / Driveway with parking for two vehicles / Private rear garden

£140,000

Foster Avenue
HEDNESFORD

Traditional three bedroom semi detached house / Good sized private rear garden / Spacious lounge and open plan kitchen-diner / Driveway with parking for two vehicles

Offers in Excess of £140,000

Stafford Street
HEATH HAYES

NO ONWARD CHAIN / Immaculately presented two bedroom terraced house / Tastefully brought up to modern standard whilst maintaining plenty of original charm

Offers in Excess of £130,000

Gorsemoor Road
HEATH HAYES

Two bedroom traditional semi detached house / Good sized plot with a large charming rear garden / Driveway with ample off road parking / Sought after location / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms

£120,000

Newhall Street
CANNOCK

Deceptively spacious traditional end terrace house / Two spacious reception rooms / Two double bedrooms / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Good sized private rear garden

Offers in Excess of £120,000

Grasmere Place
CANNOCK

One bedroom bungalow / Well established residential area / Driveway and private rear garden / Quiet location near to Cannock Chase

£120,000

Highland Road
HUNTINGTON

Three bedroom mid terraced house / Gated driveway and front garden / Private rear garden / NO ONWARD CHAIN

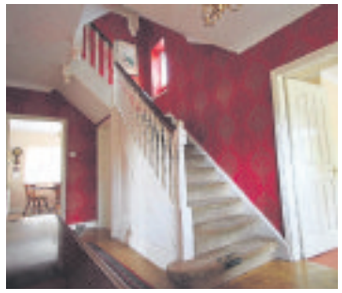
Offers in Excess of £110,000

Apple Walk
HEATH HAYES

Mid terraced one bedroom house / Ideal for first time buyers or investors / Open plan living area / Open plan living area / Modern fitted kitchen / Off road parking for one vehicle plus visitors spaces

Offers in Excess of £90,000

Tel: 01543 889410 www.lovettco.co.uk



Renovation project located in a secluded spot

RUGELEY
£525,000 <<<

A renovation project in a secluded spot overlooking fields, this large four bedroomed property in Colton Road, Rugeley, is for sale through Jayman estate agents at offers over £525,000.

It has an entrance hallway, three reception rooms, a kitchen, two bathrooms, a brick built workshop and scope to extended, subject to permissions. A very versatile property, it could be an ideal family home.

In more detail, the entrance hall has stairs off to the first floor, the first reception room has a bay window and is currently used as a bedroom, with a bathroom nearby.

The second reception room has a beautiful bay window and an open fire. The third reception room also has a beautiful bay window and an open fire.

Call 01543 505566.

Three-storey house has delightful gardens

CANNOCK
£274,995

This impressive four-bedroomed double fronted three-storey detached house in Packington Mews, Cannock, comes with impressive gardens.

It is for sale through Chase Independent now at £274,995.

It has an entrance hall, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, a guest WC/utility, a family lounge, a modern kitchen/diner, garage and driveway.

In more detail the entrance hallway has stairs off to the first floor with the guest WC close by.

The lounge has a feature log burning fire, a double-glazed window to the front elevation and double-glazed French doors.

Contact Chase Independent on 01543 504234.

BRANCH OUT WITH US

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01889 358172

sales@chaseowlestates.co.uk

GLOVERS HILL COURT
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ONE BEDROOM COACH HOUSE
NO UPWARD CHAIN
IDEAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY
TWO ALLOCATED PARKING

£90,000

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RUGELEY

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
CANALSIDE VIEWS
TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
IDEAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY

£99,950

ST MICHAELS ROAD
BRERETON

THREE BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE
NO UPWARD CHAIN
IDEAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY
OFF ROAD PARKING

£124,950

CATKIN WALK
ETCHINGHILL

THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
NO UPWARD CHAIN
WELL PRESENTED
CLOSE TO ALL AMENITIES

£155,000

ALBANY DRIVE
RUGELEY

EXTENDED THREE BEDROOM DETACHED
NO UPWARD CHAIN
BREAKFAST KITCHEN
CONSERVATORY

£194,950

HAMPTON COURT
RUGELEY

FOUR BEDROOM FAMILY HOME
QUIET CUL DE SAC LOCATION
BREAKFAST KITCHEN
CONSERVATORY

£234,950

MCGHIE STREET
HEDNESFORD

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10 YEAR NHBC GUARENTEE
READY TO MOVE IN
PRIVATE DRIVEWAY

£259,000

NEW ROAD
ARMITAGE

FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME
NO UPWARD CHAIN
GOOD SIZED ACCOMMODATION
VILLAGE LOCATION

£374,950

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NEW

The Shrubbery, Rugeley

A 2/3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Family Lounge
- Dining Room/Bedroom 3
- Family Bathroom
- Single Car Garage

£259,950

NEW

Delafield Way Rugeley

A Refurbished Three Bedroom Link Detached Property

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazed
- Off Road Parking
- Attractive Gardens
- Must Be Viewed To Appreciate

Offers in the region of £200,000

NEW

Yew Tree Cottage

A Four Bedroom Split Level Detached House

- Living Room, Dining Room
- Kichen & Family Bathroom
- Bar, Utility & Downstairs WC
- Conservatory & Detached Double Garage
- 0.75 Acres of land

£385,000

REDUCED

Glovers Hill Court, Brereton

A 1 Bedroom 1st Floor Coach House Apartment

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Private Ground Floor Entrance Hall
- Open Plan Lounge & Kitchen
- Master Bedroom & Bathroom
- Undercover Parking for 2 Vehicles

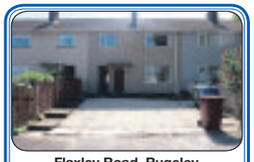
Offer Over £90,000

Wolseley Road, Rugeley

A 4 Bedroom Extended Detached House

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Ground Floor WC
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite ● 3 other Bedrooms
- Front Garden & Enclosed Rear Garden
- Attached Garage & On-Drive Parking

£290,000



Flaxley Road, Rugeley

3 Bedroom Mid-Terrace Property

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Lounge/ Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking

£115,000

Burnthill Lane Rugeley

A Four Bedroom Executive Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- Dining Room
- Integral Garage

Offers over £238,000

Hednesford Road, Rugeley

A 4/5 Bedroom 3 Storey Modern Town House

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Open Plan Kitchen/Dining Room
- Master Bedroom & Double Bedroom Both with En-Suites
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Separate Garage with Parking

£195,000

Ti-Arwil, Keystone Lane, Rugeley

Trtaditional 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House

- Part Double Glazed
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens & Driveway Parking
- Single Car Garage & Outside W.C

£159,500

APPLICATION RECEIVED

Chichester Close, Rugeley

A Three Bedroom House

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Ground Floor WC
- Gardens Front & Rear
- 2 Parking Spaces

£625 PCM

Attention Landlords

We have Tenants Waiting to Rent Your Property

LET

Brereton Road Rugeley

A Three Bedroom Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazed
- Two Car Parking Spaces
- No Smoking Unable To Accept Housing Benefit
- FEES APPLY

£650PCM

TO LET

The Whitehouse, Church Street, Rugeley

A Two Bedroom Character Cottage

- Newly Renovated
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Lounge & Breakfast Kitchen
- Enclosed Courtyard
- Parking for 1 Vehicle

£850 PCM

TO LET

Sheep Fair, Rugeley

A 1 Bedroom 2nd Floor Flat

- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Kitchenette
- Bedroom with built in wardrobe
- Bathroom

£400 PCM

TO LET

Hednesford Road - Commercial Property

A Ground Floor Retail Unit

- Main Road Frontage
- Total retail floor area 33.5sqm
- Kitchenette
- Toilet
- Subsidiary area to rear

£7250PA

OFT

The Home of Property

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PROPERTY

Offers invited for four-bedroomed detached family home enjoying a sought after location

Open to sensible offers, this four-bedroomed detached family home in Canterbury Drive, on the sought after Birches Estate in Rugeley, is for sale through Chase Owl Estates at £272,500.

RUGELEY
£272,500

Its accommodation briefly comprises of an entrance hallway, a guest cloakroom/WC, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen and utility. Upstairs is a landing to the master bedroom with an en-suite, second double bedroom with an en-suite, two further bedrooms and a family bathroom. Outside is a good driveway to the garage and a garden to the rear.

In more detail the entrance hallway has laminate flooring, stairs off and double doors to the lounge.

The guest cloakroom/WC has laminate flooring and an extractor.

The lounge has laminate flooring a bay window and double doors to the dining room.

From here sliding patio doors give access to the rear garden and there is a door to the breakfast kitchen.

The breakfast kitchen has a range of wall and base mounted units with work surfaces over, incorporating an inset stainless steel sink with a mixer tap, drainer and tiled splash-back.

Contact Chase Owl Estates on 01889 358172.

Well-presented house in popular residential area ideally located for shops and public transport

This very well presented three-bedroomed detached house in Denbury Close, Cannock, is for sale through Flint & Co Estate Agents at £200,000.

CANNOCK
£200,000

Having gas central heating and double glazing, its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, a family bathroom, a good-sized rear garden, driveway and a garage.

Ideally located in the popular residential area of Heath Hayes, it is close to shops, amenities, and public transport routes and a good school catchment area.

In more detail, the entrance hallway has laminate wood-effect flooring and a storage cupboard.

The lounge has a feature wooden fireplace with a marble effect inset and a hearth housing a gas fire, a double glazed bow window to the front and a window to the rear.

The kitchen has base and wall-mounted units with work surfaces over incorporating space for a fridge freezer, space for a cooker, an extractor hood and tiled flooring.

Outside, to the front of the property there is a lawned area and driveway.

For full details call Flint & Co on 01543 624400.

Dan's the man for soulful tunes

If you like George Ezra, Paolo Nutini or Jack Savoretti, check out Shrewsbury singer-songwriter Dan Owen, whose debut album, Stay Awake With Me, reveals a major new talent with a soulful voice.

Dan says of his new release: "I like to think of it as a collection of personal stories and experiences. I feel like this is what I have been working for since I first picked up a guitar at eight years old. A lot has happened since then and these songs cover some of the high and low points for me and those closest to me."

He is certainly entering a crowded market, the success of Ezra, Ed Sheeran, James Bay and the like, means there is no shortage of mellow-voiced sensitive souls who strum guitar. His debut follows a well worn path with its use of gospel choir and uplifting strings but songs such as What Is A Man and Splinter show lots of promise. Icarus and Hideaway have already garnered attention, the former making the Radio 2 playlist and the latter Radio 1.

Dan's a man with plenty of potential and can build on this debut. After supporting Isaac Gracie and playing festivals, he plays Birmingham's Castle & Falcon, Moseley Road, on October 13 and has a home town gig at the Theatre Severn on November 16.

Meanwhile, Wolverhampton singer-songwriter Scott Matthews, whose latest album is The Great Untold, has nearly sold out his home city gig at the Newhampton Arts Centre on September 28.

Have a go at falconry at the Midland Game Fair

Escape to the country

THE Midland Game Fair returns to Weston Park this month, offering a host of country-themed events, activities and demonstrations, adding up to a great day out for all the family.

The line up in the main arena will include performances by The Knights of Middle England, Ye Olde Redtail Falconry, as well as musical from the Coventry Corps of Drums and a traditional Hound Parade.

At the Midland Game Fair, over the weekend of September 15 and 16, there will be musical entertainment including the popular Folk Roots Festival across three stages.

There is also a Food Festival and the Beer in the Park area in which to take a break from visiting more than 700 trade stands selling countryside clothes and accessories

Traditional country pursuits will include displays by master netsman Brin Brinded and there will also be an opportunity to try the Survival Camp with ex-SAS Soldier Bob Podesta.

There's the Prince Albert Angling Fishing Village, a Working Dog Village, Falconry Village and enthusiasts can enjoy a festival showcasing of shooting sports.

The event organised by Countryman Fairs features the finals of the Chudleys Gundog Championship, BASC Clay Shooting and BFTA European Field Target Championships.

To discover more about this year's event or book tickets (under-16s go free with a full paying adult) visit www.midlandgamefair.co.uk website.

Spike is Goon but not forgotten

The first ever UK tour of the classic radio comedy The Goon Show visits Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre on September 18.

In 1951 the landscape of British comedy changed dramatically when The Goon Show burst onto the airwaves of the BBC Home Service. Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers, Harry Secombe and, in the early days, Michael Bentine brought a brand of surreal humour unlike anything that had been heard before and revolutionised comedy.

With its bizarre characters, fantastical plots and running jokes, The Goon Show captured the imagination of the British public and made household names of its three main stars, all of whom would go on to achieve fame.

Now in Goon Show creator Spike Milligan's centenary year, Apollo Theatre Company, who recently produced the 50th anniversary tour of another classic radio comedy, Round the Horne, have teamed up with Spike Milligan Productions to bring the show to the stage for the first time.

Producer, Norma Farnes, Spike's assistant and manager for 36 years, says: "There is no better time than the centenary of Spike's birth to celebrate his most enduring creation. Spike's sense of the absurd created a whole new form of comedy which fuelled everyone's imagination and still does today."

Brimming wit and surreal humour, The Goon Show promises to be a must-see for classic comedy fans.

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AT YOUR LEISURE

Rebus returns with a new case at Birmingham Rep

Charles Lawson

Scottish detective John Rebus is being brought to the stage when the latest story in the popular crime series gets its world première at Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

Ian Rankin's Edinburgh-set Rebus novels have dominated the detective fiction scene for decades with the subsequent television series ensuring the detective's legendary status. Now, alongside award-winning playwright Rona Munro, Rankin brings his beloved creation to the stage for the first time.

Rebus: Long Shadows finds the former detective inspector living in retirement and trying to keep off the booze but his past life won't let him be, and when the daughter of a murder victim appears outside his flat, he's back on the case.

Taking on the role made famous on television by John Hannah and later by Ken Stott is Charles Lawson, best known for playing Jim McDonald in Coronation Street. Alongside Lawson will be John Stahl (from Game of Thrones) as Big Ger Cafferty and Cathy Tyson (Band of Gold/Grange Hill) as DI Siobhan Clarke.

The play, directed by Robin Lefevre, will be staged at Birmingham Rep from September 20 to October 6 before touring.

Cinders will Wiggle Wine to the ball with Donchez

Britain's Got Talent star Donchez Dacres wiggled his way into the hearts of the nation with his catchy Wiggle Wine song.

Now Wolverhampton-based Donchez will wiggle his way to the ball as he stars in a charity pantomime in the Black Country later this year.

The 61-year-old singing AA man will be joining the cast of Cinderella, the Mary Stevens Hospice's annual pantomime at Stourbridge Town Hall in November.

Amanda Bowen, deputy head of fundraising and lottery at the Stourbridge-based hospice, said: "Much like the rest of the nation, we were wiggling and wining from the moment he appeared on our screens and we could not be more thrilled that he's joined the cast for this show.

"Community is at the heart of everything we do here at the charity, and to be able to let our supporters know that a performer of his calibre will be on hand to entertain them in support of the families relying on our care is just such a special thing to be able to do."

Cinderella will run for five shows at the town hall, between November 28 and 30. For tickets, call 01384 377778 or visit www.seaty.co.uk/cinderella website.

It is the second show organised by the hospice, after their production of the Wizard of Oz sold out in January with X Factor star Wagner as the Wizard.

Wiggle Wine with Donchez

Cooking up a treat in ruins of Ludlow Castle

This weekend marks the 24th Ludlow Food Festival and the line-up mixes renowned chefs and food writers with more than 180 producers from across the Marches area.

There will be tasting, talks, demonstrations and more at the festival, which starts tomorrow (Friday) and continues to Sunday. Organisers have secured some big names for this year including Thomasina Miers, founder of Wahaca, and Brad Carter from the Michelin-starred Carters of Moseley, a regular on TV's Saturday Kitchen. There is also strong representation from chefs local to the Welsh border counties.

Italy-based Rachel Roddy, acclaimed for both her cookbooks and her regular Guardian column, will also be appearing at Ludlow, as will Great British Bake Off's Howard Middleton and Sandy Docherty, plus rugby star turned Celebrity Masterchef winner Phil Vickery.

The festival is one of the town's biggest events, regularly attracting more than 15,000 people to the grounds of Ludlow Castle across three days. For details visit www.ludlowfoodfestival.co.uk website.

Punk's not dead, it's just Idles at the moment

Bristol band Idles are fast getting a reputation as the best new punk band in a generation. The high-energy five-piece outfit will come to Birmingham next month as part of their Tour of Joy, following the release last week of their incendiary second album, Joy as an Act of Resistance.

It's hard to imagine a more volatile mosh pit than that which will greet such tracks as Rottweiler and Danny Nedelko, the latter a punk anthem on a par with Babylon's Burning (The Ruts) and White Riot (The Clash). Singer Joe Talbot is a force to be reckoned with, a refreshing blast of righteous anger when tackling such subjects as class, nationalism, immigration and toxic masculinity. He also shows an emphatetic side, particularly on June. Few other bands would take on such a subject as the death of a child. But they are not dour, an air of positivity pervades their raw, infectious agit-pop.

Idles will be in concert at the O2 Institute in Birmingham, on October 26, a busy night at the Digbeth venue with veteran reggae act The Mighty Diamonds and singer-songwriter Sophie Hunger in the other two rooms.

BRAIN GYM

No.496

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

17	16	1	3	10	25	■	23	10	7	22	24	1
■	18	■	6	■	6	■	8	■	1	■	■	24
■	12	■	1	19	10	10	16	23	16	6	8	21
17	16	26	16	■	10	■	7	■	18	■	■	6
■	21	■	7	■	24	■	8	■	7	■	■	5
■	9	7	10	23	26	7	25	■	10	7	4	7
11	■	10	■	■	■	2	■	■	■	15	■	22
9	19	10	7	■	5	6	21	16	3	6	21	■
8	■	■	3	■	7	■	14	■	6	■	26	■
24	■	■	20	■	13	■	19	■	5	24	7	2
1	7	2	19	8	7	10	16 I	21 S	2	■	1	■
16	■	■	8	■	7	■	8	■	24	■	17	■
11	7	8	6	6	8	■	18	7	8	2	25	8

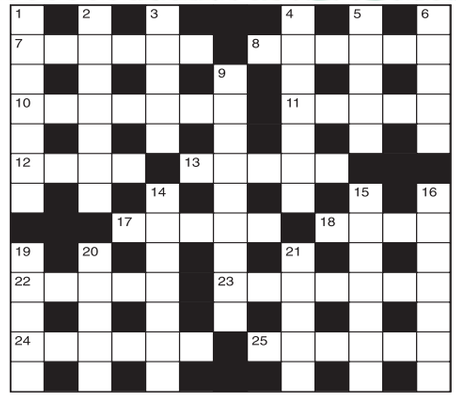
1	14
2	15
3	16 I
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21 S
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
E	L	P	V	K	S	I	G	A	U	Z	J	F
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Y	B	X	H	W	C	Q	T	D	R	N	M	O

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

7. Genuineness of fellow-feeling about ancient city (6)
8. Language of refinement (6)
10. Receiver's illegal act (7)
11. Dance to produce white skin again? (5)
12. Timely stitch saving (4)
13. Bird gives a lift? (5)
17. So bun could become a gratuity (5)
18. Bad weather in the south at present (4)
22. A spinster gone wrong (5)
23. City of Abraham? (7)
24. Boring tool gets me in the back (6)
25. All for change of flowers (6)

Down

1. Assign father to rise to the matter at issue (7)
2. Contemptuous of sacred things, but in favour of temple (7)
3. Paradoxically MPs had to before taking their seats (5)
4. A lot of money obtained from music (7)
5. They have their pride, of course (5)
6. Worth a fling (5)
9. Pull to pieces completely while sobbing (9)
14. No terms for a giant (7)
15. Getting all meals while sailing? (2,5)
16. Cheat using new lids (7)
19. Girl is about right to take to the altar (5)
20. Five find knotted tail essential (5)
21. Fish where two lines meet (5)

Quick Clues:

Across

7. Calm (6)
8. Deviate (6)
10. Airman (7)
11. Not at all (5)
12. Profound (4)
13. Fireplace (5)
17. Danger (5)
18. Eager (4)
22. Mild (5)
23. Generous (7)
24. Leap (6)
25. Agreement (6)

Down

1. Ascending (7)
2. Sailor (7)
3. Devoutness (5)
4. Cheat (7)
5. Long for (5)
6. Core (5)
9. Axiom (9)
14. Green (7)
15. Scholarly (7)
16. Blow up (7)
19. Pervert (5)
20. Wed (5)
21. Confound (5)

Sudoku

	1			2			9	
		5				3		1
3	9		8	1	4			2
9		8				6		
	4		3		6		5	
	7	3				1		
5			4		9			7
		9				2		
	6			7			3	5

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

8	7	6	3	4	1	9	5	2
9	4	1	2	8	5	7	3	6
3	5	2	7	9	6	1	8	4
1	6	5	8	2	9	3	4	7
4	8	9	6	7	3	2	1	5
7	2	3	1	5	4	6	9	8
6	9	8	5	1	7	4	2	3
2	1	7	4	3	8	5	6	9
5	3	4	9	6	2	8	7	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Reach; 4 Donkeys; 8 Grosser; 9 Grave; 10 Tied; 11 Restrict; 13 Shed; 14 Rate; 16 Outright; 17 Wash; 20 Allot; 21 Reunion; 22 Endless; 23 Press. Down: 1 Right up to date; 2 Abode; 3 Most; 4 Darken; 5 Nightcap; 6 Examine; 7 Sweet nothings; 12 Belittle; 13 Settled; 15 Shorts; 18 Aside; 19 Hump.
QUICK - Across: 1 Excel; 4 Sadness; 8 Trade-in; 9 Vying; 10 Bore; 11 Prospect; 13 Tail; 14 Cost; 16 Harmless; 17 Bowl; 20 Emend; 21 Egghead; 22 Tatters; 23 Dense. Down: 1 Establishment; 2 Chair; 3 Lees; 4 Sundry; 5 Division; 6 Evident; 7 Sign the pledge; 12 Dislodge; 13 Torrent; 15 Assess; 18 Ocean; 19 Aged.

Quiz

1. What was the pen name of author Amantine Aurore Lucile Dupin?
2. What does a natural trumpet not have?
3. In which US state is Black Rock Desert?
4. In Greek mythology, of what was Aeolus the god?
5. What was the Gestapo's nickname for WW2 nurse Nancy Wake?
6. What type of creature is a razor-fish?
7. What do the letters CH stand for when appended to a name?
8. Who was the first British-born astronaut to walk in space?
9. Which US presidential home did Eisenhower name after his grandson?
10. In the Old Testament, who caused Samson's hair to be cut off?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Hickstead; 2 The equator; 3 New York; 4 Sam Peckinpah; 5 McLaren; 6 The Jungle Book; 7 Galaxy; 8 A pawnbroker; 9 Epiphany; 10 A sea-bird.

Niner: EXPULSION

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

23684735 gives an item of clothing,
94321 gives a second item of clothing,
56323 gives a headdress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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MORE TOP LONDON SHOWS...

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- **Aladdin**
- **Bat out of Hell**
- **Chicago** NEW FOR 2018!
- **Dreamgirls** ★★★★★ *- Evening Standard*
- **Les Misérables**
- **Mamma Mia!** ★★★★★ *- Daily Mail*
- **Matilda** ★★★★★ *- The Guardian*
- **Motown the Musical**
- **School of Rock** ★★★★★ *- Daily Mail*
- **The King and I** WINNER OF 4 TONY AWARDS!
- **The Lion King**
- **The Phantom of the Opera**
- **The Tina Turner Musical**
- **Wicked** ★★★★★ *- The Sunday Telegraph*

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SATURDAY'S TV SEPTEMBER 8

CHOICE

Jess Gillam

Last Night of the Proms (BBC1, 9pm)

The classical music celebration continues live from the Royal Albert Hall with the ever-popular Marche militaire francaise by Saint-Saens. Award-winning 18-year-old saxophonist Jess Gillam performs Scaramouche by Milhaud. Plus, baritone Gerry Finley performs the Soliloquy from Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel, and there is a nationwide sing-along of traditional First World War songs with contributions from the Proms in the Park events in Swansea, Glasgow and Belfast. The event is then brought to its familiar and rousing close with Rule, Britannia!, Land of Hope and Glory and Jerusalem.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nadiya's Family Favourites. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Great North CityGames. Coverage from the Newcastle Gateshead Quayside. **3.45** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.15 Film:** Brave. (2012) Animated fantasy, with the voice of Kelly Macdonald. **5.40** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme. **5.55** Impossible Celebrities.

6.45 Pointless Celebrities. An EastEnders edition of the general knowledge quiz with contestants including Natalie Cassidy, Dean Gaffney, Perry Fenwick, Emma Barton, and Lisa Hammond.

7.35 Strictly Come Dancing Launch Show 2018. New series. The pro-celebrity ballroom contest hosted by Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman returns, featuring a medley of Nile Rodgers' greatest hits performed by Chic and the man himself. Nile is also joined by Craig David and Stefflon Don for a special performance of their new single. The line-up this year features former Pussycat Dolls singer Ashley Roberts, Casualty actor Charles Venn (Jacob Masters), Red Dwarf's Danny John-Jules, Steps singer Faye Tozer, former England cricketer Graeme Swann, YouTube personality Joe Sugg, BBC newsreader Kate Silverton, TV presenter and campaigner Katie Piper, Paralympic swimmer and paratriathlete Lauren Steadman, Blue singer and former EastEnders actor Lee Ryan, This Morning doctor Ranj Singh, stand-up comedian Seann Walsh, investigative journalist Stacey Dooley, TV presenter and fashion expert Susannah Constantine, and radio DJ Vick Hope.

9.00 Last Night of the Proms. The classical music celebration continues live from the Royal Albert Hall, featuring the familiar and rousing close of Rule, Britannia!, Land of Hope and Glory and Jerusalem.

10.35 BBC News; Weather.

10.55 The NFL Show. Mark Chapman is joined by former players Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to present highlights of the opening weekend of fixtures.

11.25 Film: The Client. (1994)

1.20 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.25** BBC News.

BBC2

6.40 Top Class. (R) **7.05** Marrying Mum and Dad. (R) **7.35** Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers. (R) **8.05** The Dengineers. (R) **8.35** Absolute Genius with Dick & Dom. (R) **9.05** Planet Dinosaur. (R) **9.35** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **10.00** Nature's Miracle Babies. (R) **11.00** Natural World: The Last Grizzly of Paradise Valley. (R) **12.00** Nigel Slater: Eating Together. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Great British Menu. (R) **1.30** Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. (R) **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Wanted Down Under. (R) **3.45** Scrappers – Back in the Yard. (R) **4.15** Saving Lives at Sea. (R) **5.15** Trust Me, I'm a Doctor. (R) **5.45** Ancient Invisible Cities. (R)

6.45 Dad's Army. Mainwaring tries to talk Frazer into depositing his hoard of gold sovereigns in a safe place – his own bank. Vintage comedy, with Arthur Lowe and John Laurie. (R)

7.15 Last Night of the Proms. The season comes to a close with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and former chief conductor Andrew Davis steering proceedings live from the Royal Albert Hall. The centenary of the end of the First World War is marked with a new work from Roxanna Panufnik, which also rounds off the season's original premieres and features the BBC Singers and BBC Symphony Chorus. The evening also includes music by Hindemith, Berlioz and Charles Hubert Parry, who is celebrated 100 years after his death with a performance of Blest Pair of Sirens.

9.00 Film: Spotlight. (2015) Premiere. A team of investigative reporters for a Boston newspaper investigate reports of children being molested within the Catholic church. The journalists discover the situation is far worse than it seemed, as they find a conspiracy among the city's legal, religious and government establishments to cover up decades of abuse. Oscar-winning fact-based drama, starring Mark Ruffalo and Michael Keaton.

11.00 Film: Drive. (2011) A stuntman-turned-getaway driver tries to protect a criminal's family, only to get drawn into a conflict with the Mafia. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling and Carey Mulligan.

12.35 Josh Widdicombe: What Do I Do Now. (R) **1.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dana. **6.10** Super 4. (R) **6.25** Super 4. (R) **6.35** Make It Pop. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Cut the Rope: Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.05** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.15** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.30** ToonMarty. (R) **7.40** ToonMarty. (R) **7.55** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.35** £10k Holiday Home. (R) **12.10** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** The X Factor. (R) **1.30** ITV Racing: Live from Haydock. Ed Chamberlin and Francesca Cumani introduce coverage of this afternoon's meetings at Haydock Park, Kempton Park and Ascot, featuring eight races. **4.30** WOS Wrestling. **5.30** ITV News; Weather. **5.40** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.50 Film:** Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. (2001) An orphaned boy with magical powers enrols at a special school for young wizards. First in the fantasy adventure series, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Alan Rickman and Richard Harris.

8.30 The X Factor. The SSE Arena Wembley is the location as the audition rounds continue in the talent contest, hosted by Dermot O'Leary. Judges Robbie Williams, Ayda Williams, Louis Tomlinson and Simon Cowell decide who goes through to the Six Chair Challenge, before the competition really heats up later in the year with the live shows.

9.45 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host is joined on tonight's show by guests Cate Blanchett, Jack Black, Joanna Lumley and Ashley Banjo, while Ray Winstone and Paul Whitehouse also drop in to talk about new heist movie King of Thieves. John Legend performs live in the studio.

10.50 ITV News; Weather.

11.05 UEFA Nations League Highlights. England v Spain. Action from the League A Group 4 encounter at Wembley Stadium.

12.05 WOS Wrestling. Crater continues to wreak havoc on the WOS arena and WOS Male Championship contenders push their claim to the title. Presented by Rachel Stringer. (R) **1.00** Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas. **3.00** Long Lost Family. A woman hopes to be reunited with the son she gave up for adoption, while a nurse wants to meet her father for the first time. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Adventure & Trail Running: UK Challenge. **6.40** Mobil 1: The Grid. **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.55** The Simpsons. (R) **11.25** The Simpsons. (R) **12.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.35** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.35** The People's Vet. **5.35** Escape to the Chateau: DIY. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Britain at Low Tide. Natural History Museum palaeontologist Tori Herridge returns with the maritime documentary, which makes use of state-of-the-art technology to explore Britain's coastline for signs of the nation's seafaring history. This time, she begins in East Sussex, where she explores the wreck of a ship that sank in the 1740s along with its cargo. (R)

8.00 Lost Cities of the Maya: Revealed. Documentary exploring the ruins of a hidden civilisation in the jungles of Central America, and revealing what fresh information the find has revealed about the Mayan people. (R)

9.00 Massacre at Ballymurphy. Documentary investigating the massacre in West Belfast in August 1971, in which 11 people died when British troops opened fire on Catholic residents. The film presents evidence suggesting that, contrary to the claims of the army at the time, all of the victims were innocent and unarmed. The families of the dead accuse Britain's elite Parachute Regiment of carrying out the shootings, the same regiment which, less than six months later, was to shoot dead 13 unarmed people on what became known the world over as Bloody Sunday.

10.30 Film: Gladiator. (2000) A Roman general is forced to fight as a gladiator and uses his position to seek revenge for the murder of his family. Oscar-winning epic, with Russell Crowe.

1.20 Hollyoaks. (R) **3.30** French Collection. (R) **4.25** Village of the Year with Penelope Keith. (R) **5.20** Food Unwrapped. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Access. **10.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.20** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **2.20** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **3.20** Rich House, Poor House. (R) **4.20** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R) **5.20** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R)

6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! Agents head to Manchester to recover more than £400,000 owed to a builder, while officers in Kent chase over £11,000 owed by a couple for unpaid rent. (R)

6.55 5 News Weekend.

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v India. Highlights of day two of the Fifth and final Test in the series, taking place at The Kia Oval, London. With commentary by Michael Vaughan, Mark Nicholas, Alison Mitchell, Sourav Ganguly, Ebony Rainford Brent and Charles Dagnall.

8.00 Brunel's Britain: King of the Sea. Rob Bell concludes his two-part documentary series on the great British engineer with the story of his two masterpieces of ship design – the SS Great Britain, the great-great-grandmother of all modern ships, and the SS Great Eastern. By the time he had finalised the latter's design, the ship was 692ft long and weighed nearly 19,000 tons. The biggest vessel afloat of its era, it dominated the final years of Brunel's life, generating great controversy at the time. It has even been blamed for causing his death. (R)

9.00 How the Victorians Built Britain. Michael Buerk looks at the creation of the sewer system, delving into the archives to reveal how appalling sanitary conditions forced the city of Liverpool to take action.

10.00 Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of the housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.

11.05 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments of the 80s. Countdown of controversial events from the decade. (R)

1.40 SuperCasino. **3.10** Traffic Cops. (R) **4.00** Britain by Bike with Larry & George Lamb. (R) **4.45** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.10** House Doctor. (R) **5.35** Nick's Quest. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Secrets of Our Living Planet **8.00** Lost Land of the Tiger **9.00** The Plague **10.45** Elton John at the BBC **11.40** Glam Rock at the BBC **12.40** Top of the Pops: 1986 **1.10** Secrets of Our Living Planet **2.10** Lost Land of the Tiger **3.10** Close

ITV2

11.15 The X Factor **12.15** Celebrity Catchphrase **1.20** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.25 Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **3.25** FYI Daily **3.30 Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **4.10 Film:** Arthur (2011) **5.10** FYI Daily **5.15 Film:** Arthur (2011) **6.20 Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014) **7.20** FYI Daily **7.25 Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014) **9.00 Film:** American Pie: Reunion (2012) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10 Film:** American Pie: Reunion (2012) **11.15** Family Guy **12.15** American Dad! **1.10 Film:** Keith Lemon: The Film (2012) **2.15** FYI Daily **2.20 Film:** Keith Lemon: The Film (2012) **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

3.10 Film: Carry On Matron (1972) **4.55** Lewis **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Vera **1.00** On the Buses **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

4.15 Football's Greatest: George Best **4.30** Storage Wars **5.55** The Chase: Celebrity Special **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain **9.00 Film:** The Fugitive (1993) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10 Film:** The Fugitive (1993) **11.45 Film:** Swordfish (2001) **12.45** FYI Daily **12.50 Film:** Swordfish (2001) **1.45** Better Late Than Never **2.30** The Protectors **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.05 Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.05 Film:** Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) **3.00** The Great British Bake Off **4.15** The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice **5.20** Extreme Cake Makers **5.35** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol (2011) **11.40** Gogglebox **12.40** Tattoo Fixers **1.50** Rude Tube **2.45** Gogglebox **3.40** Rude Tube **4.05** Rude(ish) Tube **4.50** How I Met Your Mother **5.30** Melissa & Joey

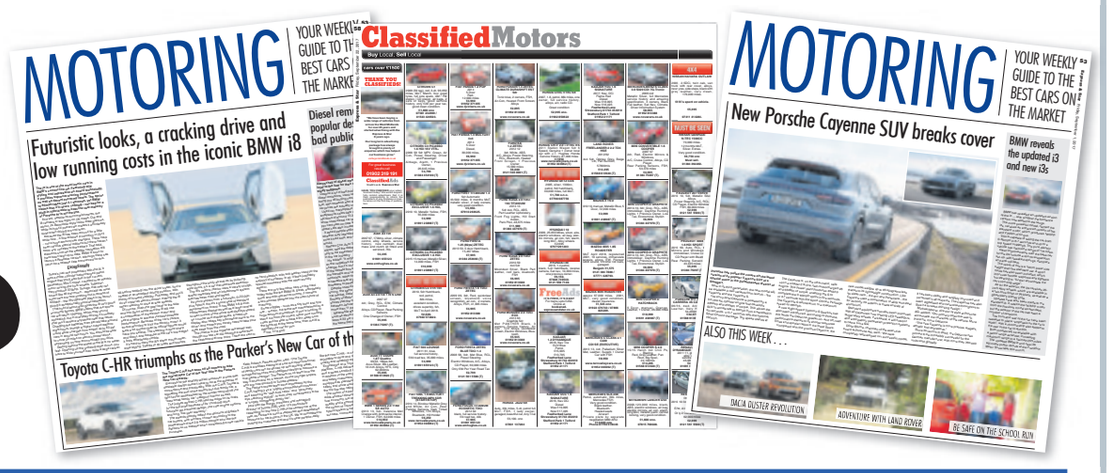
Film4

11.00 Crack in the World (1965) **1.00** Bridge to Terabithia (2007) **2.55** Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (2013) **4.55** Carry On Spying (1964) **6.40** The Monuments Men (2014) **9.00** Solace (2015) **11.05** No One Lives (2012) **12.45** Savages (2012) **3.25** Close

EVERY FRIDAY!

MNA

New Car?



NEW CAR OFFERS

USED CAR DEALS

PRIVATE AND FROM THE TRADE!

NEW CAR REVIEWS & ROAD TESTS

MOTORING

Express & Star

SUNDAY'S TV SEPTEMBER 9

CHOICE

Bear Grylls

Celebrity Island with Bear Grylls
(Channel 4, 9pm)
New series. Another party of celebrities brave a deserted Pacific island. This year's team of castaways consists of Olympic rower James Cracknell, boxer Anthony Ogogo, Hollywood star Eric Roberts, Pete Wicks (Towie), Montana Brown (Love Island), transgender campaigner and journalist Paris Lees, actor Martin Kemp, TV medic Dr Saleyha Ahsan, former model Jo Wood and Roxanne Pallett (Emmerdale). Pete takes charge as they look for a place to camp, but his decision to leave most of their fresh water behind stirs up resentment as the weather worsens.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **8.30** The Andrew Marr Show. **9.30** Great North Run. **1.30** BBC News; Weather. **1.45** Still Open All Hours. (R) **2.15** Hold the Sunset. (R) **2.45** Points of View. **3.00** Songs of Praise. **3.35** Fake or Fortune? (R) **4.35** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.35** Shop Well for Less? (R)
6.35 BBC News.
6.50 Regional Programme.
7.00 Countryfile. Anita Rani and John Craven present the show from Essex, reporting on how plant-based superfoods like borage and chia are becoming more popular and how timber that has washed up on the county's shoreline from around the world is being repurposed. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
8.00 Fake or Fortune? Fiona Bruce and art expert Philip Mould investigate the first work of sculpture featured on the show, an unusual piece called The Gazing Head, which may have been made by Alberto Giacometti in 1930s Paris. The quest to uncover the truth is complicated by the fact that the sculpture was once broken into several pieces by a cat.
9.00 Bodyguard. As the security service's position grows weaker, the police takes the opportunity to reclaim control of the investigation. David struggles to come to terms with the devastating events of the previous 24 hours, and finds himself being questioned by counter-terrorism agents. Pushed to breaking point, he finds an unexpected source of support in his estranged wife, who leaves him determined to take an active role in the case – starting by finding out more about those in the government who work closely with Julia.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.
10.30 Kylie Minogue Live at Hyde Park. The singer performs at the BBC Radio 2 Festival in a Day, featuring a selection of classic hits and tracks from her recent country music-inspired album Golden.
11.30 The Women's Football Show. Eilidh Barbour introduces highlights and talking points from the opening day of the 2018/19 Women's Super League.
12.00 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.05 BBC News.

BBC2

6.35 Around the World in 80 Gardens. (R) **7.35** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Great British Menu. (R) **12.00** Great British Menu. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. (R) **1.30** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **2.30** Wastemen. (R) **3.30** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **4.30** Flog It! (R) **5.00** Great North Run Highlights.
6.00 Film: Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. (1989) The intrepid archaeologist sets out to find his estranged father, who has gone missing while searching for the Holy Grail. Once reunited, the duo team up to finish the task and locate the sacred relic before the Nazis get their hands on it. Action adventure sequel directed by Steven Spielberg, starring Harrison Ford, Sean Connery, Alison Doody, River Phoenix, Julian Glover and Denholm Elliott.
8.00 Dragons' Den. The panel assess the profit-making potential of business plans for gourmet cheesecake, hired drones, and collagen-infused gin. Presented by Evan Davis.
9.00 Eight Go Rallying: The Road to Saigon. The teams have the finishing line in their sights as they travel along Vietnam's coastline to Saigon – but the last day brings one duo to the brink of disaster. Last in the series.
10.00 Mock the Week. Angela Barnes, Ed Gamble, Rhys James, Nish Kumar and Tiff Stevenson join host Dara O Briain and regular panellist Hugh Dennis for the topical comedy show. (R)
10.30 No Activity. New series. Comedy following the work of two low-level detectives on a stake-out. In the first episode, Bruce and Hendy start the operation with a plaster dolphin in their car.
10.55 No Activity. Stokes and Hendy find themselves sitting in an empty dockyard watching shipping containers, but an overly eager security guard disrupts the operation.
11.20 The Mighty Redcar. Documentary about people in the North Yorkshire seaside resort Redcar. (R)
12.05 American Justice. (R) **1.05** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.00** Holby City. (R) **3.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dana. **6.10** Super 4. (R) **6.25** Super 4. (R) **6.35** Make It Pop. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Cut the Rope: Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.05** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.15** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.30** ToonMarty. (R) **7.40** ToonMarty. (R) **7.55** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.25** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **2.30** Wastemen. (R) **3.30** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **4.30** Flog It! (R) **5.00** Great North Run Highlights.
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6.30 ITV News; Weather.
6.45 Regional Programme; Weather.
7.00 5 Gold Rings. Game show, hosted by Phillip Schofield, in which contestants compete to answer visual questions by placing rings on an LED floor in five increasingly difficult stages. This episode features sisters competing against a married couple.
8.00 The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary hosts further action from the arena auditions from the SSE Arena, Wembley, in which solo singers and groups compete to impress judges Robbie Williams, Ayda Williams, Louis Tomlinson and Simon Cowell. If three or more judges like what they see, the performers can win the chance to go through to the judge's deliberation, and possibly even the Six Chair Challenge.
9.00 Vanity Fair. Becky has moved in with her rich aunt Matilda, and seems to have a bright future ahead of her. However, war is brewing on the horizon, which threatens the fortunes of the scheming social climber and everyone she knows. Adaptation of William Makepeace Thackeray's novel, starring Olivia Cooke.
10.05 The Imitation Game. Alexander Armstrong hosts the impressions-based panel show, with team captains Rory Bremner and Debra Stephenson joined by panellists Christina Bianco and Jon Culshaw.
10.45 ITV News; Weather.
11.00 Coronation Street's DNA Secrets. (R)
12.25 Monster Carp. (R) **1.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.40 Motor Sport: FIA World Rallycross Championship. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25 Film:** The Book of Life. (2014) Animated adventure, with the voice of Diego Luna. **3.15** The £100k Drop. (R) **4.20** Orangutan Jungle School. (R) **5.20** The Great British Bake Off. (R)
6.35 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Hidden Britain by Drone: Heatwave Special. Tony Robinson discovers how the hot summer of 2018 led to unexpected archaeological discoveries, as parch marks on the ground have shown signs of what is buried beneath it. Tony talks to archaeologists and drone pilots who have recorded these finds, and discovers the race to document these hidden secrets before they are destroyed by rain.
8.00 Battle of Britain: Model Squadron. New series. Radio controlled plane enthusiasts from Britain and Germany are brought together by historian James Holland to recreate three pivotal days in the most famous aerial battle of the Second World War, using specially designed model aircraft that are able to shoot each other down. The re-enactment picks up from July 4 1940, just a month after the Dunkirk evacuation when bombing of British shipping began as a prelude to invasion.
9.00 Celebrity Island with Bear Grylls. New series. Another party of celebrities brave a deserted Pacific island, including Olympic rower James Cracknell, Hollywood star Eric Roberts, and Emmerdale's Roxanne Pallett.
10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show, with Sean Lock and Bill Bailey taking on special guest captain Joe Wilkinson and Isy Suttie. (R)
11.00 Film: The Lincoln Lawyer. (2011) Thriller, with Matthew McConaughey and Marisa Tomei.
1.10 The Supervet. (R) **2.05** The Secret Life of the Zoo. (R) **3.00** Grand Designs Australia. (R) **3.55** Mobil 1: The Grid. (R) **4.25** Gillette World Sport. **4.50** Village of the Year with Penelope Keith. (R) **5.45** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **5.50** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.10** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.15** Luo Bao Bei. (R) **6.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **6.40** Fireman Sam. (R) **6.50** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.05** Bob the Builder. (R) **7.15** Rusty Rivets. **7.30** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **7.55** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.15** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.30** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **8.50** Pirata & Capitano. (R) **9.05** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.20** Floogals. (R) **9.40** Paw Patrol. (R) **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Britain's Greatest Bridges. (R) **10.35** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20** Friends. (R) **12.55** Friends. (R) **1.20** Friends. (R) **1.50** Friends. (R) **2.20** Friends. (R) **2.50** Friends. (R) **3.15** Friends. (R) **3.45** Friends. (R) **4.15** Friends. (R) **4.45** Friends. (R) **5.15 Film:** Tarzan. (1999) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Tony Goldwyn.
6.15 Access. Showbiz news and gossip.
6.20 Film: Tarzan. (1999) Concluded.
7.00 Cricket on 5. England v India. Highlights of day three of the Fifth and final Test in the series, taking place at The Kia Oval, London.
7.55 5 News Weekend.
8.00 That's So 1982. A look back at 1982, featuring news, pop and TV archive clips. It was a year that saw the Falklands War, the birth of Prince William, Channel 4's launch together with the first episode of Countdown, and Steven Spielberg's ET: The Extra-Terrestrial break box office records. It was also the age of new romanticism and electropop, while tracks such as Come on Eileen, Eye of the Tiger and Pass the Dutchie stormed the charts. (R)
9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.
10.00 Celebrity Ghost Hunt: Haunted Holiday. New series. Rylan Clark-Neal takes a team of celebrities on a ghost hunt in Ireland's Wicklow Gaol.
11.05 30 Inches Tall and Turning 18: Extraordinary People. (R)
12.00 Film: Red Dawn. (2012) **1.40** SuperCasino. **3.10** Brunel's Britain: King of the Sea. (R) **4.00** World's Most Pampered Pets. (R) **4.45** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.10** House Doctor. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 The Joy of Train Sets – The Model Railway Story **8.00** A303: Highway to the Sun **9.00** Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Monumental Art **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Inside CERN: A Horizon Special **11.30** The Last Explorers **12.30** Al Murray's Great British War Movies **1.30** Pappano's Classical Voices **2.30** A303: Highway to the Sun **3.30** Close
ITV2
12.50 Ninja Warrior UK **1.50** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.50** The X Factor **4.05 Film:** The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10 Film:** The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **6.10 Film:** Minions (2015) **7.20** FYI Daily **7.25 Film:** Minions (2015) **8.00 Film:** Hot Pursuit (2015) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10 Film:** Hot Pursuit (2015) **9.50** Family Guy **11.20** American Dad! **12.15** The Cleveland Show **12.40** Ghosted **1.05** Release the Hounds **2.10** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records
ITV3
1.10 Goodnight Mister Tom **3.20 Film:** Columbo: Suitable for Framing (1971) **5.00** Foyle's War **9.00** The Good Karma Hospital **11.00** Wire in the Blood **12.40** A Touch of Frost **2.30** Road to Avonlea
ITV4
11.05 Film: Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10 Film:** Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) **1.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **2.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain **3.00** Goals of the 70s **3.15** Cycling: Tour of Britain Live. Coverage of the eighth and final stage of the race. **5.30** Storage Wars **6.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain **9.00 Film:** Rambo: First Blood Part II (1985) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05 Film:** Rambo: First Blood Part II (1985) **11.05 Film:** Born to Raise Hell (2010) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10 Film:** Born to Raise Hell (2010) **1.00** The Avengers
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12.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.30** Young Sheldon **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **4.30 Film:** Paddington (2014) **6.20** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Krypton **10.00** Fear the Walking Dead **11.00** Gogglebox **12.05** The Big Bang Theory **1.05** Krypton **2.05** Fear the Walking Dead **2.50** Rude Tube
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11.00 Guadalcanal Diary (1943) **1.00** Stuart Little (1999) **2.40** Eragon (2006) **4.40** The Dam Busters (1955) **7.10** The Cold Light of Day (2012) **9.00** Ride Along 2 (2016) **11.10** Killing Them Softly (2012) **1.05** Hallam Foe (2007)

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£249**	£249	£3,000†	£19,893	£16,644	NIL

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£259**	£259	£1,700†	£21,282	£19,323	NIL

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The Ford Ka+ Active is an impressively amusing thing to drive

Funky, fresh edge to Ford's city car – the Ka+ Active

By Ryan Hirons

Hatchback-turned-rugged SUV is one of the biggest trends amongst car manufacturers at the moment, and Ford is looking to lead the way with its 'Active' range of machinery.

First came the Fiesta Active, and soon too will the all-new Focus. But for now, there's this – the Ka+ Active.

Now the Ka+ has never been a tremendously memorable car. It's by no means a bad machine, but it's fair to say the success of the Fiesta and general buyer focus towards more premium machinery means the city car hasn't captured imaginations in the way the 1996 original did – but could Active treatment change that?

Calling Active just a trim level for the Ka+ would be doing it a disservice — there's actually quite a lot of depth to it. Most noticeably is the 'rugged' look on offer, which comes thanks to redesigned body panels, roof rails and a raised ride height.

Debuting alongside a Ka+ facelift, there's also a new engine line-up on offer, with two petrols and a diesel available, while a host of new equipment available for the city car also joins the fray. Powering our test car is a 1.2-litre three-cylinder petrol engine, producing 84bhp and 112Nm of torque which sent to the front wheels via a five-speed manual gearbox. As for fuel economy, Ford claims it can manage 49.6mpg while emitting 129g/km of CO2 emissions. It's far from a potent engine — with the small unit having to be worked hard to get the most out of it — but for town driving, it's powerful enough.

The Ford Ka+ Active is an impressively amusing thing to drive. Despite being slow, it doesn't feel like a chore when working it hard and it's spritely around corners.

Where the Ka+ falters though is on the motorway. Although it rides comfortably, its five-speed box means revs sit high at 70mph which, in combination with high wind noise, brings a lot of unpleasant noise into the cabin.

Ford has angled the Ka+ Active as a more rugged machine, and it has made a number of aesthetic tweaks to try and add to this. These include beefier bodywork, a raised ride height and roof rails.

Stepping inside the Ka+ Active brings the realization that this is a car built to a pretty low price point. Plastics are hard and plentiful.

That said, space is respectable. Despite being smaller than the Fiesta, you can fit the same number of people in – five, to be exact – and probably end up with an equal amount of room. As for boot space, that remains identical to the regular Ka+, totalling 270 litres.

There's a fair amount of kit to be found when you consider its entry price of £13,245. For that, you don't just get a spacious city car, but also automatic headlamps, rain-sensing wipers, cruise control and Ford's Sync 3 infotainment system displayed on a 6.5-inch touchscreen. There's no navigation, but there is support for both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. The Ford Ka+ Active proves to be more than just a trim level. It brings a funky, fresh edge to an otherwise pretty forgettable city car and offers just as much room for the cost as the larger Fiesta.

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Practical and durable the clue's in the name

It's a machine that hides its utilitarian purpose rather well

By Ian Donaldson

When it's a car name you have probably never have heard of – and certainly can't spell – you need to get yourself noticed.

How about a warranty that stretches over seven years and 150,000 miles? Like to learn something about the vehicle that covers even its radio against failure until 2025? Thought so.

Well, it's called a SsangYong Musso, it's made in South Korea and it's available for less than £20,000 to a business user who will put this no nonsense pick-up truck to work.

But back to names. Musso is Korean for rhino, which tells you what its maker wants us to think of this newcomer; tough enough to ford rivers and laugh at roads rutted deeply enough to give an army jeep pause for thought.

And like a rhino it's a rare sight.

This year a new business plan that hacks back at unprofitable sales in areas like daily rental and Motability will see still fewer new SsangYongs hit the road, but hopefully making solid money in the process.

To do that they'll need some vehicles we might want to buy. One arrived last year in the imposing shape of the SsangYong Rexton, an SUV that comes very well equipped for the price.

Now we have the Musso, using the Rexton's 2.2

The cabin is notably hushed place

litre diesel engine, tough chassis and drivetrain but adding a big load bay that turns SUV into pick-up with the ability to carry more than a tonne of payload – with happy financial consequences to a person who buys one for business.

The four-door cabin has rear seats amply roomy enough for a couple of burly men or three people who chomp fewer chips when they clock off for the day.

Without the need to pop VAT on the bill a new Musso can be yours for £19,995. Like dearer versions (they stretch to £28,495 for a thoroughly well equipped limited launch edition Rhino version) it will tow a 3.5 tonne trailer if you add £1,250 worth of automatic transmission in place of the standard fit six-speed manual, which manages 3.2 tonnes.

Talking of Rhino, the newcomer's different grades come with the mandatory-for-a-pick-up roll call of butchness, with Rebel and Saracen above the plain Jane EX entry level vehicle.

Even the EX comes with good specification including 17ins alloy wheels, DAB audio and Bluetooth, electric windows, remote central locking (including the tailgate), air conditioning, auto wipers and lights and a full sized spare wheel.

Pick any new Musso and you'll have a machine that hides its utilitarian purpose rather well before a bad patch of road presents itself. Until then, the cabin is notably hushed place to spend your working day and looking and feeling smarter than you might expect from a pick-up workhorse.

Performance is good enough for you not to notice (121mph top speed for the manual, 115mph for auto but no quoted acceleration figures) and the ride is a bit jiggly, but acceptable, on better road surfaces.

The rear suspension struggles more on rougher roads, being tamed a bit with 700kgs of concrete blocks in the load bay but never settling confidently. Already SsangYong is looking at changing the rear springs to provide a more settled ride.

The Musso recorded 35.8mpg (32.9mpg auto) in the official tests; a mixed test route saw 31.2mpg on the trip computer.

Exhaust CO2 figures of 211g/km (226g/km auto) would mean expensive road tax if the Musso was a car – but its light commercial vehicle status brings a flat rate of £230 a year.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest FORD Kuga 1.5 EcoBoost (182PS), A6-AWD: Urban 30.1 (9.4), Extra Urban 44.8 (6.3), Combined 37.7 (7.5), CO_2 emissions 173(g/km). Lowest: FORD All New Fiesta 1.5 TDCi (85PS) With Stop/Start - 3 Door, M6: urban 80.7 (3.5), extra urban 94.2 (3.0), combined 88.3 (3.2). Official CO_2 emission 82g/km. Prices & details correct at time of publishing & are subject to change without notice. *Finance subject to status to UK residents aged 18 or over through Ford Credit. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. An Excess Mileage Charge will be payable if you decide to return the vehicle & the agreed annual mileage has been exceeded. Please note calls may be recorded for training & quality purposes. Acorn Group Ltd is an appointed representative of Automotive Compliance Ltd. which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA No 497010), whose permitted business is to act as Principal Firm for a network of Motor Dealer Appointed Representatives who advise on and arrange non-investment insurance contracts, acting on behalf of the insurer and act as Credit Brokers for introduction to finance providers, acting on behalf of the lender. All offers subject to stock availability, terms and conditions. Details correct at time of publication, E&OE. Pictures used for illustration purposes only.

New Navara N-Guard from Nissan is stylish new edition

The Nissan Navara N-Guard is a tough and stylish new special version of the brand's award-winning pickup, and it's on sale now.

Available as Double Cab with 2.3 dCi 190 PS engine, the model is priced starting from £28,075.00 Basic Retail exc. VAT with the Manual gearbox, and £29,525.00 Basic Retail exc. VAT for the automatic gearbox.

The Navara is the versatile 'go-anywhere' pickup that's perfect for a tough week at work followed by an adventurous weekend in the wilderness. The N-Guard special version makes it even more desirable, thanks to a contemporary design upgrade, plus extra standard equipment.

Based on the flagship Tekna grade, the front grille, fog lamp surrounds, mirror covers, door handles and rear bumper are all finished in black. Matching side steps and roof rails have been added, along with unique black 18-inch alloy wheels. The interior of the headlamps has been darkened, and a sunroof with tinted glass is standard.

Customers can order the Navara N-Guard in one of three exterior colours – Twilight Grey, Metallic Black and Storm White. The makeover is completed with unique decals at the base of the front doors, extending on to the load bed behind the rear wheel.

The Navara is a versatile 'go-anywhere' pickup perfect for a tough week at work followed by an adventurous weekend in the wilderness

Inside, the themes of refinement and sophistication continue with restyled leather and cloth seats. The base and back inserts have been upgraded with a smart new dark grey and yellow design, complemented by yellow double stitching. This feature is replicated on the door trim and on the new signature floor mats, which feature a geometric design to match the exterior.

Metallic or Pearlescent paint are included in the On the Road Price of the Navara N-Guard. In addition, headlamp washers are fitted as standard equipment which are currently not even available as an option.

The one item still on the options list is a rear differential locker to provide enhanced traction on every type of surface.

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Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA FABIA range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 47.1 (6.0) to 53.3 (5.3); Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3) to 68.9 (4.1); Combined 57.7 (4.9) to 61.4 (4.6). CO_2 emissions for the ŠKODA FABIA range are 111 to 105 g/km. This vehicle is a WLTP (Worldwide Harmonised Light-Duty Vehicles Test Procedure) type approved vehicle. More information is available at www.skoda.co.uk/owners/wltp-info/nedc-vs-wltp. However, in line with government guidance, to facilitate comparison between different models from different manufacturers and to accommodate the full transition to this new testing regime, we have displayed NEDC figures. These NEDC figures are the values for this vehicle used in registration and taxation documentation until further notice from the UK authorities. These NEDC figures have been derived from WLTP testing, and may not be equivalent to NEDC figures from NEDC testing, so comparisons may be unreliable. Fuel consumption and efficiency figures are provided for comparative purposes only and may not reflect 'real world' driving results. Choice of wheels and other options may affect fuel consumption and emissions data.

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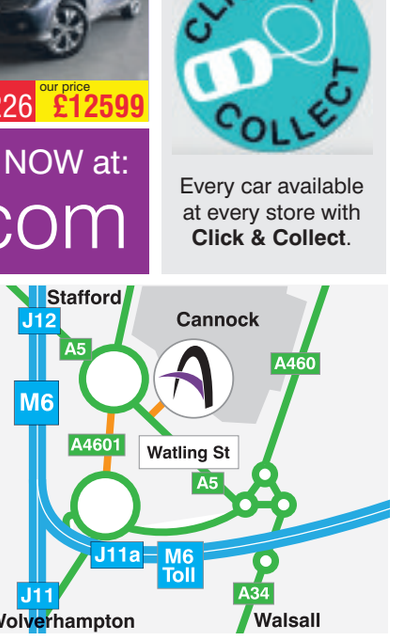

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Eg (4pm Thursday)

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Deaths

CLEMENTS
Maureen May

Passed away peacefully on Monday, August 27, 2018, aged 81 years.

Maureen was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of her Family and Friends. The Funeral Service will take place on Friday, September 14, 2018 at Stafford Crematorium at 2pm.

Flowers welcome.
All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
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01543 502322

CRANEY
Sharon

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 26, 2018, aged 52 years.

Sharon was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at Stafford Crematorium, at 4pm.

Family flowers only please. Donations, will be appreciated in lieu of flowers.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DH
01543 502322

VIEW YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLINE!

www.myfamilyannouncements.co.uk/expressandstar
ENGAGEMENTS
CONDOLENCES
MEMORIES
BIRTHDAYS
WEDDINGS & BIRTHS

Deaths

PITTAWAY
Margaret Elizabeth

Passed away at Lakeview Nursing Home, August 25, 2018, aged 83 years.

Margaret will be sadly missed by all her loving Family.

Funeral Service to be held at Bushbury Crematorium on Friday, September 14, at 11.30am.

Flowers are welcome.
Inquiries to
HALLIWELL
Funeral Service
164 Walsall Road
Great Wyrley
WS6 6NQ.
01922 419090.

TAGG
Grace Ellen

Passed away August 26, 2018, aged 88 years.

Beloved Mother of Hazel and David, Mother-in-law to Sue. She will be sadly missed by all of her loving Family and Friends.

Funeral Service to take place on Thursday, September 13, 1pm at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only, donations if desired will be divided between The British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research.

All inquiries to
ROBERT NICHOLLS
Funeral Directors,
Stafford.
Telephone 01785 253683

Acknowledgements

TRANTER
Reg

The Family of the late Reg Tranter would like to extend their thanks for kind wishes and support shown to them during this sad time.

We would also like to thank everyone for generous donations of £450, to be paid to The Chemotherapy Ward at Stafford Hospital.

Sincere thanks.

Dorothy and Denise.

Lost & Found

FOUND
White and black male Cat.
Been around since May.
Cheslyn Hay.
01922 417163.

MISSING' ECHO'
HELP ME GET HOME
Missing since August 22, Baswich, Stafford.
Super friendly, small split in right ear, look in sheds, listen for my cries. Need special food, on lost microchip register.
Say hello to me and take to vet or call my Mum .
07967 711240.

Family
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Classified Ads

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1 Family

Elderly & Disabled

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Model P319, one used, the other never used, both in excellent condition, new batteries fitted to newer chair, £600 for the used one, £750 for the newer one.

Willing to let both go together for £1250.

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2008 Swift Chamonix 2 beds
Luxury Pre-loved, en suite toilet & large family shower room.
Immaculate condition including new carpets throughout.
On ultimate coastal park 5 star retreat.
Minutes from glorious sandy beaches, world famous golf course & Historic Harlech Castle.
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www.castleviewpark.co.uk

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Booters £5
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Pouk Lane, Springhill, Muckley Corner, WS14 0ET
07890 267 041

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what's on

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AUCTION STARTS 6PM - VIEWING 4.30PM
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holidays

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4 Pets & Animals

Equestrian Corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

Guns & Dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

Pets Corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

HELP ME GET HOME

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5 Business & Farming

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business directory

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6 Property

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NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

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Please forward your CV to Victoria,calladine@gidsolicitors.com

8 Motoring

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BARGAIN

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BARGAIN

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BARGAIN

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9 Local Information

Public Notices

PUBLIC & LEGAL NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on **01902 319694** or email **marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk**
(remember to include a name/ contact number for confirmation of receipt)

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Public Notices

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSE

Abbey Foods Ltd of Church Farm, Church Lane, Hatherton, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1RR Is applying for a licence to use Church Farm, Church Lane, Hatherton, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1RR as an operating centre for 8 goods vehicles and 14 trailers

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of the land would be affected. should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

highways england

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)(a) THE A5 TRUNK ROAD (WATLING STREET, BRIDGTOWN, STAFFORDSHIRE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2018

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) has made an order on the A5 Trunk Road, at Bridgtown in the County of Staffordshire, to allow road marking works to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to –

1. close the A5 between its roundabout junction with the A460 and the A34, and its junction with Cross Street, at Bridgtown;
2. prohibit any vehicle from entering or leaving the A5 at its junction with Bridge Street and Lakeside Boulevard.

The work will be carried out overnight between 20:00 hours and 06:00 hours and is expected to start on Monday 17 September 2018 and continue for 2 nights. The Order will come into force on 10 September 2018.

Vehicles being used for police, fire and rescue authority or ambulance purposes, and vehicles being used in connection with the works or for winter maintenance purposes will be exempt from the closure and prohibition.

Access to properties will be maintained at all times.

Diversion routes via the A460, the A4601, Bridge Street, the A34, Union Street, and Cross Street will be signed.

For further information please contact Esosa Ikolo, a Project Manager on behalf of Highways England, on 0300 470 3105.

Karen Eustace, an Officer in Highways England Company Limited.

Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ. A Company registered in England and Wales.

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND TEMPORARY REVERSAL OF ONE WAY TRAFFIC B4156 HIGH STREET, CHESLYN HAY

Notice is hereby given that Staffordshire County Council on 4 September 2018 made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding along B4156 High Street, Cheslyn Hay. For more information regarding access arrangements, timings and diversion routes please visit https://roadworks.org?tm=106091661. The Order will come into operation from 08:00 hours on 9 September 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated the works will be completed by 16:00 hours on the same day. The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the re-setting of 3 sunken valve boxes, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

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Heathens' final tie put back 24 hours

CRADLEY'S home leg of the National Trophy Final with Mildenhall has been put back 24-hours. The Motor Market Heathens will now race at Wolverhampton on Tuesday September 11 to avoid being stripped of half their team.

The original date of Monday ruled out Kyle Bickley and Taylor Hampshire with the club already without Drew Kemp.

Boss Will Pottinger said: "This is great news and it underlines what can be done when clubs work together for the good of the sport.

"It's a cup final so both clubs want it to e a spectacle for the fans and now it has every chance of being that. We would like a handy lead, any lead at all, from the home leg so our fans can travel to Mildenhall for the return on the Sunday with hope of an aggregate win."

Cradley won their group in a dramatic draw at Birmingham last month to just edge out the Brummies. Mildenhall are regarded as one of the strongest teams in National League history.

Ashes hero Vaughan in sporting dinner

ASHES winning former England captain Michael Vaughan and ex-chairman of selectors Geoff Miller are special guests at at sportsman's dinner in Walsall next month.

Former Yorkshire batsman Vaughan, aged 43, captained England for 51 of his 82 Tests and masterminded the 2005 Ashes win, the first since 1986/87. He scored 5,719 Test runs at an average of more than 41, scoring 18 100s and the same number of half-centuries, before retiring through injury in 1999. He is now a pundit and has also taken part in Strictly Come Dancing.

Miller, who played first class cricket for Derbyshire and Essex, played 34 Tests for England before becoming a national selector.

The two will be appearing in a fundraiser on behalf of Rushall at Walsall's Banks's Stadium on Thursday, October 11.

Tickets are £45 each or £425 for a table of 10 and are available from Route 39 on 01902 244220.

Neal aims to bounce back at Silverstone

STOURBRIDGE racer Matt Neal has it all to do next weekend with his hopes of a fourth British Touring Car Championship title all but over.

Neal slipped 92 points behind series leader Colin Turkington following the latest round at Knockhill.

Hamstrung by having to carry 39kg of success ballast in both qualifying and race one, Neal lined up a frustrated 21st on the closely-contested grid before being removed from contention at mid-distance of race one by an errant rival.

From that point, it became an exercise in damage limitation, and the three-time champion rose to 17th in race two and a points-scoring 15th in the finale. He is now ninth in the drivers' standings ahead of the remaining two outings at Silverstone (September 15/16) and Brands Hatch GP (September 29/30).

"You need a bit of luck in the BTCC, and that's clearly been lacking but we'll be lighter going to Silverstone and we will bounce back."

Richard Cox honoured after his last game

Richard Cox in batting action

Cox declares after an innings to remember

IT HAS spanned five decades, more than 850 matches, included countless silverware and involved some of the most famous names in cricket.

Now, 44 years after making his debut at the age of 12, Richard Cox has decided to declare his Birmingham League playing career finished.

Cox, who was the league's longest-serving player, took to the field for the final time at a second XI match between Halesowen and West Bromwich Dartmouth, the two clubs with whom he hoisted a host of trophies.

"It felt like now is the right time. You can't go on forever," said Cox. "There are a number of factors. I had a pretty nasty car accident last winter and 50 overs in the field was already becoming quite a strain.

"I'd noted when this fixture was scheduled when I'd made up my mind. I didn't say anything about it. I guess I just wanted to go out on my own terms."

Passion

Cricket has been a 24-7 existence for Cox, both as a player and in the many roles he has held as an administrator. But the sport has been less a hobby, or even a job – and more a religion.

The passion he holds for the game still burns as brightly as it did when he first set foot inside Edgbaston cricket ground as a seven-year-old boy.

Cox's father Trevor, who both played and umpired, was a major influence. "It was dad who got me into it, he just loved the game," he said. "I've often asked why I've played for so long. I'm guessing most people, having worked in the sport from Monday to Friday, would want their weekends off.

"But it's because my father ingrained in me this deep love for the game, which will be with me until I'm no longer here. The Birmingham League has and always will be part of my world."

Cox made his first forays as a youth player with south Birmingham club Old Edwardians, before making the move to Dartmouth, where he made his league bow in a second XI clash with Warwickshire Colts. "It was right place at the right time," he said. "Someone dropped out and I was called up."

Cox would go on to spend the next 25 years at Sandwell Park, 10 as captain of the first XI. After a season at Harborne, he then began an 18-year stint at Halesowen, where he captained the team to the 2002 Premier Division title in remarkable circumstances.

"I remember being called up on the Friday by David Manning, the club's head of cricket," recalls Cox. "He said: 'We are 18 points off the relegation zone and sinking fast. I need you to take over the captaincy and try and keep us up.' Five weeks and six games later we'd won the league! "

Cox had already tasted league glory at Dartmouth nine years previously, while he was part of the team which won the knockout cup six years on the spin and reached the National Knockout final at Lord's in 1993, where they lost to league rivals Old Hill.

What sticks out above the trophies, however, are the endless anecdotes and memories.

In 1999, Cox was part of the Dartmouth team which played Smethwick when Wasim Akram, then Pakistan captain, made his debut in front of 3,000 spectators. He was at the non-striker's end when Akram delivered the ball which left team-mate Robert Fenton with a broken jaw.

"I spent a week with the bowling machine at Edgbaston cranked up to 90mph to give myself a chance," Cox recalls. "But nothing compared to facing him in real life – he came round the wicket from behind the umpire often with the ball covered up by his right hand in the run up so you couldn't detect which way it would swing. It was a guessing game.

"He then resorted to bouncing people. Robert had his jaw broken and I think his toe as well. It was an honour to be out there."

Cox counts his match-saving 44 not out, compiled over more than 40 overs in the middle, as among his most memorable innings, along with an unbeaten 55 for the league select XI against a Warwickshire attack featuring Allan Donald, Gladstone Small and Tim Munton.

He's had some illustrious team-mates too. Cox regards former Zimbabwe Test stars Dave Houghton and Andy Flower as the best two he ever played alongside. Flower, Dartmouth's overseas player in 1994 and 1995, went on to manage and coach England.

"Andy was one of the great innovators," says Cox. "I have never known a player prepared to be so hard on themselves. He was relentless in his pursuit of success. I've been lucky to have played alongside some fantastic cricketers. There are simply too many to mention, so many unsung heroes.

Glorious

"The late 1980s and early 1990s, in particular, was a glorious time to be involved in Birmingham League cricket. The competition was fierce but played in the right manner. You had so many good overseas players and county players."

Cox's career off the field would also make a decent book. Currently the head of West Midlands region for the ECB, a role in which he oversees five county boards, his previous jobs have included academy manager at Warwickshire, general manager of Shropshire, while he even had a stint as chief executive of the Netherlands cricket.

"There's an old saying if you can find a job which is your hobby, you'll never work a day in your life," adds Cox. "My current job with the ECB is based at Edgbaston. I still drive in through the gates every morning with the same enthusiasm I had as a seven-year-old boy, walking through them for the first time. I'm still in awe of the place."

SPORTING FEATURE

By Matt Maher

"There's an old saying if you can find a job which is your hobby, you'll never work a day in your life."

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Sport

Cricketer Cox bows out after fine innings

Page 51

Hawks could be killjoys for Walmley

C&R Hawks could deny Walmley promotion from the Birmingham League division two if they win their last two games. Harborne lead the way after winning at Penkridge, but Hawks hold second place.

They will not be promoted, due to issues with their ground, but Walmley will also be denied promotion if Hawks win their last two games.

Despite defeat, Penkridge could still grab the second promotion place. Clinical bowling reduced Penkridge to 144 all out on their own ground. A painstaking unbeaten 54 from Suraj Kumar steered Harborne to a nervy win. Penkridge need Hawks and Walmley to lose their last two games if they are to gain the second promotion place.

Pershore were 207 all out before Hawks cruised to a four-wicket win with more than 16 overs to spare.

Rugby cruised to a 132-run win over Milford Hall to set up a possible winner-takes-all match this weekend for the division three title against Stourbridge.

Hammerwich posted 298-9 in the Staffs Clubs Championships, winning by 119 runs after bowling out Rugeley for 179. Cannock's Adam Benton was in the runs with two centuries on successive days. First he hit 113 as Cannock scored 297-8 against Beacon. The Wolverhampton side won by six wickets, though.

The next day Benton (125) led the way as Cannock hammered Springvale. James Caswell scored 52 as Cannock declared on 300-5 and bowled out their opponents for just 90 to win by 210 runs. Matt Robinson took 4-26.

Hayes battle way through to next round of the Vase

Heath Hayes 3 Shifnal 1

HEATH Hayes advanced into the next round of the FA Vase with a hard-earned win against Shifnal Town and now travel to Leicestershire side Saffron Dynamo in the next round

With both sides feeling each other out, early chances were at a premium, Shifnal keeper Jake James handling everything that came his way with extreme confidence. Then on 30 minutes Shifnal took the lead when James Cullen hit a speculative shot from outside the box which looped over keeper Jordan Harvey.

Hayes equalised a minute before half-time as Matt O'Doherty scrambled the ball in from close range. It took Hayes two second-half minutes to take the lead when a cross-shot found its way over the Shifnal keeper. Harvey then pulled off two top-drawer saves to keep the lead but things were made safe on 55 minutes when Dean Williams ran through to beat the keeper with a deft lob.

With players returning, Hayes are gradually getting back to full strength ahead of their visit to unbeaten Hinckley on Saturday (3pm).

South Staffs on the crest of a wave

Tom Temple takes to the water *Picture: BYS Sailing*

SOUTH Staffordshire Sailing Club continues to make waves after landing a prestigious accolade.

It has been named a British Youth Sailing (BYS) recognised club under a new scheme celebrating excellence in developing future stars.

The initiative sees the sport's governing body, the RYA, working alongside clubs to promote grassroots sailing and support junior and youth sailors. About 80 youngsters are currently involved in regular youth and junior training at the Gailey Reservoir-based club, with 20 of these part of South Staffs' weekly race squad, which trains all year round.

To help introduce more local youngsters to sailing and to give them opportunities to enjoy and achieve success in a different sport, the club runs taster sessions for pupils at Chase Terrace Technology College in Burntwood, while 9th Stafford Sea Scouts also use the club every week from April to October.

To find out more about South Staffs Sailing Club visit www.southstaffssailingclub.co.uk

PITMEN WIN AWAY AGAIN

Whitby Town 1 Hednesford Town2

A GOAL in each half saw Hednesford Town claim all three points against Whitby Town in the Northern Premier as the Pitmen made it three wins on the spin away from home.

Visiting defender Callum Mendez-Jones set the tone of the first half, firing in an effort that went just wide of the upright in the fifth minute.

Four minutes later, Hednesford almost edged ahead when Mike Howard just couldn't stretch enough for a cross into the box before the striker saw a header superbly saved by Jack Norton in the Seasiders' goal.

In the 18th minute the visitors were indebted to captain Stefan Galinski for keeping the score level as he cleared a Dale Hopson effort off the line after the midfielder had broke forward.

Strong

But the Pitmen struck first when Jed Davies floated a lovely ball into the penalty area in the 29th minute and striker Dan Cockerline took the ball down before poking home.

Over the next 10 minutes Whitby threatened with a number of set-pieces, but Pitmen goalkeeper Josef Bursik stood strong.

In the 76th minute, the Pitmen doubled their lead when new signing Lewis Archer picked up the ball in his own half before running up the left wing and into the box and toe poking an effort into the roof of the net to score on his debut.

The home side were back in it seven minutes from time as Kieron Parnaby rose highest to head home at the back post.

But despite a late flurry, Hednesford held out for the win.

It was the El Staffico on Tuesday night as Stafford Rangers headed for Keys Park.

There's another Staffordshire derby on Saturday as Tamworth visit for the first qualifying round of the FA Cup (3pm).

Welcome to the new generation

Out with the old, in with the new – seeing double with Pitman Pete(s)

HEDNESFORD Town mascot Pitman Pete has hung up his boots – and there's now a new modern-looking face of the non-league side.

It's the end of an era at Keys Park for the popular mascot after playing one game too many but the club admit his devotion will be sorely missed.

The hard life at the coalface and not least the dust and grime had taken their toll on Pitman Pete, who made his final appearance at the opening home match of the season. Taking on the prestigious role now is his younger relative, and the club is happy to give him the same name as his predecessor – Pitman Pete.

The mascot's new 'kit' has been paid for by the Hednesford Town Football Club Supporters Association, whose chairman Scott Smith said: "We are proud to uphold the history and traditions of our great club, by investing in a new generation of the club mascot."

Jessica now third in the world ratings

JESSICA Whitehead from Heath Hayes achieved amazing results when she represented England at the Wadokai Karate All Nations Championships

The 15-year-old, who attends Erasmus Darwin Academy in Burntwood, won bronze in both categories she entered – individual and team. It places Jessica third in the world after losing only one round to the Japanese competitor who went on to become world champion.

Jessica Whitehead

The tournament was hosted by England in Leicester, the first time the world championships been held outside Japan.

Jessica is an assistant coach at Wado Shinko Kai in Walsall, a club she and a friend set up in June 2017. They currently train all ages, from children to adults, in the hope that they can also achieve great things in the future.

There is no rest from training as she is now preparing for her 2nd Dan Black belt which she will be taking later this year. She will also be defending her current European title in the European Championship which is being held in Ireland at the end of November.

Jessica thanked Swift Roofing Services Ltd of Burntwood for their continued support and sponsorship which has helped give her these opportunities.

Cables shocker as Scholars hit for 6

Prescot Cables 6 Chasetown 1

THE hosts drew first blood after seven minutes in this Northern One West clash when Jordan Southworth turned a cross past Curtis Pond.

Prescot doubled their lead with a quick break finished off by Josh Klein-Davies before Daniel Flood looped a header over the keeper for number three. After the interval Jack Langston scored from long range. The hosts then went down to 10 men as James Edgar clipped George Cater's heels. Cables restored their three-goal lead through Klein-Davies, who then completed his hat-trick before Michael Monaghan scored from the spot.

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